

IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO SHOOT A MOVIE: THE MAKING OF AMISS

Filmmakers from eight countries tackle social issues in this bilingual flick

Groove is... what's new, what's news and what there is to do.

GROOVE

KOREA • Issue 78 / April 2013

www.groovekorea.com

Music

PEACE. HE'S OUT

Why hip-hop hero Pinnacle TheHustler is bowing out at the top of his game

Travel

SAY WAT?

Visit the monasteries that Korea wants designated UNESCO World Heritage sites

DEAR KOREA:
I STILL DON'T HAVE
AIDS.

Question:

Why is the ROK still requiring AIDS testing for teachers, four years after Ban Ki-moon said to stop?

REALLY!!

Drink Bird is THE WORD

Magpie nails the best micro-brew in Korea

What's On

30 FESTIVALS FOR APRIL

Korea welcomes spring with dozens of unique celebrations. From cherry blossoms to bull fighting, these are the events you don't want to miss when the warm weather comes




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BENNY GOLSON QUARTET

RYO KUNIHICO'S BAND

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END KOREA'S HIV/AIDS TEACHER TESTING

EDITORIAL

Have something to say?
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● Mandatory HIV/AIDS testing for foreign teachers in Korea was borne out of a panic brought on by the arrest of noted pedophile Christopher Paul Neil in Thailand in 2007. Resentment of native-speaking English teachers had already been simmering here since a “sexy costume party” attracted the indignation of netizens in 2005. Neil’s arrest only exacerbated the distress among certain foreign-fearing segments of the Korean population, and the media was only too happy to feast on the panic; after all, Neil had taught English in this country before his arrest.

“Incidents surrounding native-speaking instructors are never-ending,” decried broadcaster MBC on Oct. 17, 2007, when news broke of Neil’s case. The next day, the Seoul Sinmun spread worries that Korea would become “a paradise for criminals from English-speaking nations,” while the Hankook Ilbo asserted that “society now knows just how deep the pitfalls of native-speaking teachers are.” The JoongAng Ilbo joined the fray, declaring that “the insecurity of school parents concerning native-speaker teachers and instructors is growing by the day. ... There must be even more crimes that have yet to be revealed.” It called on authorities to “hurry and formulate measures.”

Under pressure to act, the Ministry of Justice wasted no time: Just 10 days after broadcaster KBS connected Neil to Korea, the MOJ sent out a press release which outlined strict measures against native speakers. It was aptly titled: “Illegal native-speaker conversation instructors will no longer be tolerated.”

Soon after, the ministry declared that foreign teachers would have to undergo medical tests for HIV/AIDS and drugs at designated hospitals within Korea. The measures were hailed by some segments of the population, including the Citizens’ Group for Upright English Education — formerly known as the Anti-English Spectrum — which was invited by the government to help craft the new measures. This same group proclaimed on its website: “(HIV) infected foreigners are indiscriminately spreading the virus,” as well as molesting children, raping Korean women and consuming narcotics.

That was the backdrop under which foreigners were first forced to submit HIV/AIDS tests in Korea. Later, the country reversed course on the tests for foreigners — all except E-2 visa holders.

Mandatory HIV/AIDS testing of foreigners in Korea should be overturned. They were introduced in a climate of fear and did not address legitimate concerns. Korean children were never at risk of being infected with HIV/AIDS by their foreign instructors.

Since only foreign teachers are required to submit HIV/AIDS tests, and not their Korean colleagues, the tests are discriminatory. Even more damning is that they detract attention from where the disease is spreading the fastest — in the general Korean population — and in doing so, misdirect resources to where they are of little help.

No evidence has been provided to back up the claim that mandatory HIV/AIDS testing for one very small segment of the population, some 22,000 foreign teachers, has any net benefit at all for the good of the society’s overall public health.

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon agrees, and has urged his country to lift the requirement. Human Rights Watch and the human rights law foundation GongGam have stood up against Korea’s teacher testing. So, too, has the AIDS Society of Asia and the Pacific. Most recently, (Korean) Lawyers for a Democratic Society announced plans to approach the United Nations, saying that “The Korean government has yet to explain the link between classroom teaching and HIV infection, require that Korean nationals with the same employment undergo testing, or provide any official data to support a link between sex crimes and E-2 visa holders.”

Change could be coming, and this time Korea can’t ignore it. Last July, the U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (CERD) got involved by accepting a claim on the grounds that Korea could be in violation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD) — a legally binding treaty to which it is a signatory.

That month, the CERD gave the Korean government three months to reply to the claim. Nine months later, the government has remained silent. We, and the U.N., are still waiting.

It’s time for the government of the Republic of Korea to do the right thing and cease the mandatory HIV/AIDS testing for foreign teachers, restore the teachers’ human rights and undertake in earnest a campaign to make up lost ground in educating the general public regarding effective measures to prevent HIV/AIDS. **GROOVE**

HOT ON: WWW.GROOVEKOREA.COM

Community

Care packages from around the world

Care packages are an important part of expat life. And for Korea’s truly multicultural expatriate communities, the contents of those packages can include anything from Golden Domes chocolate (Russia), Brinta Breakfast Cereal (Netherlands), Buckley’s cough syrup (Canada) to Vegemite (Australia) and lots and lots of American candy.

Paige Stewart’s mom sends over candy. “This was the last package I received,” Stewart says, heaving a box onto a table. “It was my Christmas package. A lot of it is chocolate. My mom sends me candy like it doesn’t exist here.”

Candy in boxes has played an important part in Stewart’s life for years. She says, “I used to go to camp and we weren’t allowed candy. So my mom would send me candy in tampon boxes. And she still sends me tampon boxes full of candy.” She shows me a tampon box. It’s full of candy.

Story by Dave Hazzan

Read it online in April
or in print in May.

Destinations

Inside the West Bank

We arrived to the Palestinian refugee camp Aida to the smell of tear gas. I had to quickly cover my mouth and nose with my scarf. “You picked a good day to visit!” our host exclaimed with a wry, yet genuine smile.

A child from the camp had stolen a security camera from the Security Wall. Cans once full of tear gas lay empty on the main road next to it. I bent down to photograph it, but before I could, one child grabbed the empty can, and raised it above his head in triumph for a photograph.

We had met a French filmmaker in Petra, Jordan, who was volunteering at the nonprofit organization Alrowwad Cultural and Theater Society. Our new friend, Julie, was working on a documentary film on life in the camp with three teenagers living within its walls.

Julie had warned, “If they start throwing rocks at you, put your camera down.”

Story by Elizabeth Groeschen

Read it online in April
or in print in May.

Penélope Cruz, Palacio Marqués de Villafranca
Madrid, November 2012



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A black and white fashion advertisement for Givenchy. The image features a woman with long, wavy blonde hair, wearing dark, rectangular sunglasses. She is looking slightly to her left. She is wearing a dark, sleeveless dress with a high, ruffled collar and a large, draped ruffle on the right side. The background is a solid, light gray. The word "GIVENCHY" is printed in white, uppercase letters across the lower center of the image.

GIVENCHY



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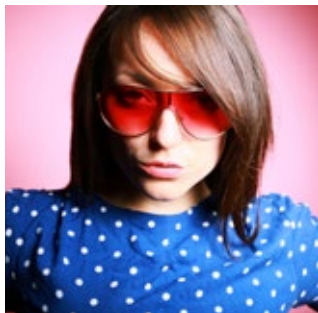
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ARTIST'S JOURNEY

Artist's Journey's Wilfred Lee sat down with Jessica Adel, an actress and director at Seoul Shakespeare Company.



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A MONTH OF FESTIVALS

April is packed with festivals taking place all around the peninsula. From cherry blossoms on Yeouido to bull fighting and sea parting festivals, our What's On pages have the scoop.

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Visit the seven monasteries that Korea is seeking to be declared UNESCO World Heritage Sites before the masses arrive. They represent some of the most important Buddhist sites in the country, boast a history of over 1,000 years and house various important historical and cultural assets. Here's the deal on the monasteries and how to get there.

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ROAD TRIP: SUNCHEON

Looking for a break from the city? You could do a lot worse than a weekend in Suncheon. And there's no better time to enjoy the slow pace of life there than during the 2013 Garden Expo.

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KATHMANDU: A WALKING TOUR

Old Kathmandu, for the most part, is still largely untouched by Western corporations. It's glorious. Go. Get lost. Ask for directions (without using your smartphone) and walk through the old city. Kathmandu won't feel so old once a shiny new Starbucks sits next to the square.

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AT THE BOX OFFICE

"Oblivion" and "Iron Man 3"

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KOREAN DVD CORNER

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PINNACLE THEHUSTLER

This hip-hop trailblazer leaves while he's on top.

62

MAGNA FALL

It's like if Led Zeppelin and Rush had a sex party with Queens of the Stone Age, Soundgarden and Radiohead, the orgiastic product might be Magna Fall — kind of. The progressive rock band is an arresting vision on stage, belting out their spacey, bluesy, grungy sounds.



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RING IN SPRING AT REILLY'S

The beer menu is a showstopper with enough ales, lagers, stouts, porters and pilsners to make your head go fuzzy. Trying more than one is an absolute must, and trying a few is more than likely for any beer lover.

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SSFL LOOKING TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Now that the season is under way and the bitter cold of the winter has receded, Sunday afternoons will have a familiar feel. Already the most popular league in the country for expats, it's looking to take the next step.



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SEOUL'S BEST SWEET & SOUR PORK

To find the best sushi, bulgogi, and sweet and sour pork, Groove Korea tagged along with foodies from Korea, Japan and China as they scoured Seoul for their respective country's best eats. This month we're on the hunt for sweet and sour pork.

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AT MAGPIE, A FOCUS ON SIMPLICITY

For a beer purist, visiting Magpie is not unlike having an epiphany — a stroke of clarity.

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THE JUJUBE

This fruit is commonly used in teas, as well as samgyetang.

COMMUNITY

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GAELIC FOOTBALL FLOURISHING

When the Seoul Gaels got started, it was just two lads talking in a bar in Itaewon. Today, the club is entering its second decade as a formidable group of 65 with more than a few titles to its name. Now, it's reaching out to the community to invite new members into the fold.

84

RAISE YOUR VOICE, THEN YOUR GLASS

On any given night, people at numerous Toastmasters clubs across Korea are speaking, listening, evaluating and helping each other become better communicators. Nearly 40 clubs and unchartered meetings (those yet to reach the 20-member mark) gather weekly.

DISTRACTIONS

90

COMICS

Some laughs while you drink your tea.

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CROSSWORD

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91

SUDOKU

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PHOTO CHALLENGE

Compete in the Photo Challenge and win a prize worth 25,000 won.

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HOTEL SPECIALS

Park Hyatt Seoul, Sheraton Grande Walk-erhill, JW Marriott Hotel Seoul, Novotel Ambassador Gangnam, Grand Hilton Seoul, Novotel Ambassador Busan, Lotte Hotel Busan

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HOROSCOPE

Find out what's in store for you this month.

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THE MAKING OF 'AMISS'

Behind the scenes in making their first full-length collaboration, the "Amiss" crew's accomplishment has been rooted in support from the community. "Having a film community as tight-knit and proficient as the one in Seoul is priceless; it's all about the big picture and helping each other achieve their Visions."



2013 Chuncheon International Mime Festival



Ah!Surajang

Jungang-ro, May 19th

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May 24th~26th

Dokkabi Nanjang

Chuncheon Children's Center & Waterfront park
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Groove Korea Magazine 2013



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Connecting Communities

Introducing some of the editors,
writers and photographers behind April's issue.



James Little
New Zealand

James is a photographer hailing from Auckland. He has been shooting for Groove Korea for the past year and dabbles occasionally with words for the magazine. When not shooting covers you can find him jogging along the Han River, reading economics books, or debating with friends at the pub. His work can be found at jameslittlephotography.com. James shot our cover this month.

Jaime Stief
Canada

Jaime is from Waterloo, Ontario, and has lived in Seoul since June 2012. Her MA is in Communications, but that doesn't always translate to being able to speak coherently. When she isn't at work, she's busy trying to build up a tolerance to spicy food. She follows more blogs than she cares to admit. Jaime is a copy editor.

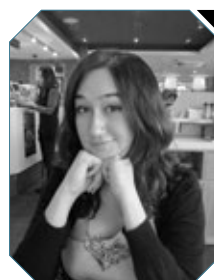
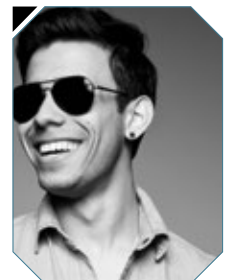


Claire Jung
Korea

Claire likes eating and enjoys the challenge of finding a good restaurant. She has worked at Groove Korea since graduating university and completed a year of school in Shanghai. Her pet peeve is people listening to music without headphones on the subway. She was a collaborator on the article "Seoul's best sweet and sour pork" in this month's issue.

Daniel Sanchez
Colombia

Daniel is a graphic artist and typographer, born and raised in South America. Daniel enjoys playing music, letting loose at the noraebang and visiting jazz cafes. He loves sports, mini-golf and hunting for ethnic food venues. He is a visual arts graduate student and Groove Korea's art director.



Emma Juno Sparkes
U.K.

Emma Juno Sparkes is a full time teacher, part time writer. She studied graphic design before she decided that she'd prefer an alternative creative outlet. Emma came to Korea seeking fame and fortune and is adored by literally tens of elementary school students. In her spare time she travels around Korea looking for adventures and perfecting the art of smartphone photography.

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Wouter Hamel

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라 벤타나 & 10cm

Roberta Gambarini

David Choi & Clara C

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damien rice
(solo)

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Roy Hargrove Quintet

Wouter Hamel

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Must Reads

ARTIST'S JOURNEY AND JESSICA ADEL

Page 54

A talented musician, actress and director, the prolific and exuberant Jessica Adel is a fixture in the Seoul arts scene. She has been devoting herself to directing Seoul Shakespeare Company's upcoming production of "Hamlet," but she recently made time in her schedule to talk with Artist's Journey's Wilfred Lee.



DEAR KOREA: I STILL DON'T HAVE AIDS

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Korea sticks to its guns on AIDS tests for foreign teachers, despite a challenge from the United Nations over their legality and the fact that they have little public health benefit. But a ruling by the U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination could put a stop to the tests.



HIP-HOP TRAILBLAZER LEAVES WHILE HE'S ON TOP

Page 58

Visit the seven monasteries that Korea is seeking to be declared UNESCO World Heritage sites before the masses arrive. They represent some of the most important Buddhist sites in the country, boast a history of over 1,000 years and house various important historical and cultural assets. Here's the scoop on the monasteries and how to get there.



THE MAKING OF 'AMISS'

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More than just a movie, "Amiss" represents the culminated efforts of many people from outside of Korea to create a bilingual film that puts emphasis on cultural issues, namely suicide. The film's cast and crew consisted of members from Canada, South Africa, Singapore, Brazil and the U.K., working with some considerable Korean talent.



SSFL LOOKING TO TAKE THE NEXT STEP

Page 80

Now that the season is under way and the bitter cold of the winter has receded, Sunday afternoons will have a familiar feel. Already the most popular league in the country for expats, it's looking to take the next step.



REILLY'S POURS A CACOPHONY OF BEER

Page 74

Reilly's is an Itaewon newcomer, tucked up on the third floor of an unassuming building you've probably walked by 500 times. The beer menu is a showstopper with enough ales, lagers, stouts, porters and pilsners to make your head go fuzzy. Trying more than one is an absolute must, and trying a few is more than likely for any beer lover.



On the cover: I still don't have AIDS

Korea sticks to its guns on AIDS tests for foreign teachers, despite a challenge from the United Nations over their legality and the fact that they have little public health benefit. But a ruling by the U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination could put a stop to the tests.

[See the full story on Page 28](#)



Cover photo by James Little / Design by Daniel Sanchez

Our past three issues:



March 2013

Is Korea's EFL failing?
Seoul's best bulgogi
Taboos and tattoos



February 2013

Getting down to business
How the liberals blew it
The first Korean-American

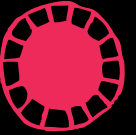


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KOREA JOONGANG DAILY

In association with

International Herald Tribune

NATIONAL NEWS with GROOVE

April 2013 / www.koreajoongangdaily.com

TOURISTS FROM CHINA, JAPAN FLOCK TO GANGNAM

At 3 p.m. on Garosugil in Sinsa-dong, southern Seoul, a tree-lined promenade that is one of the trendiest areas in the city, it's hard to avoid the groups of women visiting from Japan. They're in the boutiques and stores, taking photos of each other or people-watching over cups of coffee.

Japanese tourists have long been standard features in Myeong-dong, Dongdaemun shopping town as well as Gyeongbok Palace. Now it's Garosugil's turn.

"Garosugil is different from other areas in Seoul," said Maki Suzuki, a 24-year-old tourist from Japan. "There are many fancy stores and classy coffee houses, which people like me love to visit."

Not far away in Cheongdam-dong, southern Seoul, home to many luxury designer goods shops, the incoming tourists are from China.

"Some of the Chinese tourists don't care how much an item costs," said Kim Tae-hyeong, manager of Cartier's Cheongdam branch. "They purchase hundreds of millions of won worth of goods with ease. We set up a VIP room for them and even hired Chinese translators."

After the worldwide success of Korean rapper

Psy's "Gangnam Style" video, tourists are pouring in to experience Gangnam style for themselves.

According to a survey by the Gangnam District Office of 300 international tourists at Incheon and Gimpo international airports in the second half of February, 79.7 percent said they visited Seoul and 54 percent took the trouble to go to Gangnam.

Among those visitors, the Japanese and Chinese were most smitten with Gangnam. About 71 percent of the foreigners who said they visited Gangnam came from either China or Japan.

In Gangnam, which can refer to three districts south of the Han River - Gangnam, Seocho and Songpa - the most popular destinations were in Gangnam District starting with Garosugil, which drew 31 percent of foreign tourists. Other popular destinations were Gangnam Boulevard (21 percent) and COEX (19 percent).

The visitors who loved Garosugil most were Japanese. About 49 percent of Japanese who visited Gangnam went to Garosugil, while only 18 percent of them said they went to COEX and 16

percent said they liked Rodeo Street in Apgujeong-dong, southern Seoul.

The survey showed that Chinese tourists went all over Gangnam. Garosugil was also their favorite place, with 28 percent visiting, but other favorites were Rodeo Street (23 percent) and Gangnam Boulevard (23 percent).

"We concluded that Japanese tourists like places that are less crowded than places like Myeong-dong but are fancy and classy, while Chinese love to visit crowded and active places like Gangnam Boulevard and Cheongdam-dong," said Park Hee-soo, of the tourist division of the Gangnam District Office.

"Chinese visiting Gangnam want to dress up in a Gangnam style," a spokesman of the Tour Division of the Seoul Metropolitan Government said. "People who want to visit Seoul study fashion styles in Gangnam before they come to the country via blogs and tweets."

Due to the influx, the money spent by Chinese tourists at Hyundai Department Store's branches in Apgujeong and COEX have gone up 195 percent over last year, the city government said.

VAN TAXIS BUSTED FOR HUSTLING FOREIGNERS

The Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency arrested more than a dozen call van drivers on charges of picking up foreign tourists with less than 20 kilograms (44 pounds) of luggage and overcharging them.

The police said that a group of suspects manipulated fixed rates of their meters which charge 4,000-5,000 won (\$3.69-4.62) for 1 kilometer (0.6 miles) and 900-1,350 won for 30-60 meters, fairly exorbitant fares compared to the regular cab fees of 2,400 won for 2 kilometers and 100 won for 144 meters.

"The drivers have mainly targeted foreign tourists who are considered to have less knowledge about the right taxi fares. They drove around tourist-packed areas like Myeong-dong and Dongdaemun shopping centers and Insa-dong to attract travelers," said Kang Ki-chan, the police officer in charge of the investigation.

Twenty drivers were arrested in total. The law requires that call vans or large taxis seating up to six passengers be used to transport only passengers with freight of at least 20 kilograms. The police said that some of the arrested tourist hustlers — including a man only identified by his surname Baek — are also accused of illegally installing taxi roof signs and meters in violation of the law that bans the vehicles from having them.

Among the arrested, Baek is reported to have charged three Singaporean tour-

ists 260,000 won for a 60-kilometer ride from the Western Annex of Seoul Station to Incheon International Airport, allegedly using his altered meter. Another suspect is accused of ripping off two Thai tourists with virtually no luggage by charging fares that are almost 10 times the actual rate, according to the police.

The travelers were asked to pay 400,000 won for the distance between Incheon International Airport and Bucheon, Gyeonggi Province, west of Seoul, but regular fees are estimated at around 40,000 won.

One of the arrested, identified by his surname Myung, even locked the door when five Chinese tourists complained about an overcharged fee of 96,000 won from Myeong-dong, central Seoul, to Dongdaemun, eastern Seoul, according to the police. Some of the arrested are also accused of generating fake receipts with false numbers of different cars in apparent attempts to evade responsibility for the overcharged rate.

Predatory call van drivers have long been a headache for their illicit practices. The police recently toughened up the crackdown on the cab drivers by imposing criminal penalties rather than taking only administrative actions on them.

"The illegal practices really take their toll on Korea's image because the victim tourists usually post complaints on the Web forums. We will keep clamping down on them to prevent such practices," Kang said.

SOLDIER IN ITAEWON FIRED BB GUN ‘FOR FUN’ 21

A U.S. Army corporal who was accused of shooting a BB gun at civilians in the Itaewon area before leading police on a late night car chase told Korean police that she did it “for fun.”

The Yongsan Police Precinct said two of the three soldiers who are involved in the case, including a 26-year-old staff sergeant of the U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) and a 22-year-old female corporal, appeared before the Yongsan office for questioning.

A 23-year-old corporal, who was previously reported as a private, first class, couldn’t respond to the summons because he is still in the hospital after being shot in the shoulder by a Korean officer.

The police asked why they threatened civilians and why they refused to identify themselves at the time. They also asked if the soldiers was drunk.

A Seoul citizen reported to the Itaewon Police Station that a group of American soldiers were threatening civilians with something like an air gun near the Hamilton Hotel in Itaewon, central Seoul.

Police officers surnamed Gwak and Bae found the three in a gray Kia Optima sedan parked on the street near Itaewon Station. The police said on Sunday that they weren’t able to identify the woman who was in the sedan but later identified her as a 22-year-old female corporal of the USFK.

A 30-year-old police officer surnamed Lim was near the scene helping a foreigner who was locked up in a bank ATM booth when a taxi driver surnamed Choi, 38, who witnessed the soldiers running away from the subway station, told him what

he saw and asked the officer to get in his cab.

Officer Lim and the taxi driver chased the soldiers who drove their car up to 160 kilometers per hour (99 miles per hour) and eventually followed them into a dead end in Seongsu-dong, Gwangjin District, eastern Seoul.

The American soldiers in the vehicle drove at Lim four times after seeing the officer getting out of the taxi. Lim, who later said he feared for his life, fired a blank into the air as a warning and then fired three live bullets into the car, but the soldiers fled after hitting Lim in the knee with their car.

The police found the car they abandoned in Munbae-dong, Yongsan District, about 1 kilometer away from the USFK’s base. The police found some BBs in the car and bloodstains on the driver’s side seat.

‘FULL SERVICE’ ROOM SALON RAIDED

Police raided a room salon that offers both adult entertainment and prostitution in Daechi-dong, southern Seoul. It had already been ordered to suspend its business but simply changed its name.

The Seoul Metropolitan Police Agency said it booked five people, including a worker and female hostesses from the room salon and male customers, without detention on prostitution charges.

The police said they will request a warrant to arrest the room salon owner, a 36-year-old surnamed Yang, who refuses to cooperate with the investigation. The police also booked the owner of a motel surnamed Shin, 33, for cooperating with Yang’s business.

According to the police, Yang ran a 600-pyeong (2,372-square-yard) room salon in the basement of a building in Gangnam from January 2011 with

150 female hostesses and 45 rooms. He charged each customer about 300,000 won (\$270), earning an average of 50 million won per day and 38 billion won in last two years, according to police.

Investigators noticed a passage connecting the room salon to Shin’s motel through the basement, allowing customers to surreptitiously change venues with hostesses.

Though Yang was cited for the same violations on Feb. 14, he simply continued business as usual while the Gangnam District Office concluded administrative procedures. The police arrested 12 people in relation to the case in February, including a 33-year-old manager and a 31-year-old hostess, both surnamed Kim.

“We have tracked down 12 room salons providing prostitution since June, but the one in Daechi-dong is the biggest yet,” a police spokesman said.

BIANCA SNAGGED ON DRUG CHARGES

Broadcaster Bianca Mobley from KBS talk show “Chatting Beauties” (2006) admitted during a police investigation that she has smoked marijuana, local police recently told the media.

She was suspected of buying and smoking the illegal drug multiple times from October to November last year and working as a middleman to connect others to drug dealers.

The police have been cracking down on the use of illegal drugs recently. An industry insider said that many well-known stars are on the list for police questioning.

Prior to the probe of Bianca, police also investigated Daniel of DMTN based on similar suspicions.

K-POP STAR ADMITS TO SELLING WEED, BUT NOT TO USING IT

Daniel of boy band DMTN has admitted that he sold marijuana to his acquaintances from September to December last year.

He told police that he sold illegal drugs multiple times after he was arrested in March, according to the idol member’s agency 2Works.

Although he dealt illegal drugs, the star insisted that he did not use them. The police performed a drug test during its investigation, raising the possibility that he may have smoked. However, no trace of marijuana was found, and he was only questioned regarding the sale of illegal drugs.

“Daniel made an immature and imprudent judgment that he wouldn’t be guilty as long as he doesn’t smoke it,” the agency said in a release. “He regrets his actions and will cooperate with the police and the prosecutor’s office in the related investigations.”

Daniel has been released from police custody.

HAIRDRESSER CHARGED WITH RAPE

Pak Jun, a well-known hair dresser who runs 159 hair salons under his name — both in and out of the country — has been accused of sexually assaulting four female staff members.

The Seoul Gangnam Police Precinct reported that one of Park’s employees, whose identity has been withheld by the authorities, filed a rape charge against Park, claiming her boss raped her several times since last year in his beauty shop in the affluent Cheongdam-dong neighborhood in southern Seoul.

The alleged victim, who worked as Park’s secretary, reportedly told the police she could not turn down Park’s demand for sex because of Park’s status.

Another group of three female staffers also filed complaints against the 62-year-old man, whose real name is Park Nam-sik, alleging the successful businessman sexually harassed them while drunk at a temple in Gyeonggi Province during a seminar for employees earlier this year.

The police requested a court-ordered arrest warrant upon receiving the accusations.

“We are currently conducting an investigation into the claims and requested the court grant an arrest warrant as it was deemed necessary to detain Park for investigation,” said a police officer, who spoke on

condition of anonymity, involved in the case.

Following the police request for the warrant, the entrepreneur appeared at the Seoul Central District Court to attend court questioning.

Standing before the court entrance, the somber-looking Park said he was sorry for the trouble he has caused.

“I will give you the answers once I am done with the questioning,” said Park when asked if he acknowledged the rape charge against him.

In March, Park released a statement rebutting the claims raised by the plaintiffs. “I don’t see why they filed sexual assault charges against me,” said the renowned hairdresser.

He continued to say large parts of their accusations were fabricated and false.

Park reportedly said it was consensual sex with his former secretary during court questioning, according to the JoongAng Ilbo.

The troubled businessman also claimed the nature of the sexual conduct with the other three plaintiffs was not coercive.

“For a celebrity (like Park), just getting implicated in this kind of scandal lands a great blow to one’s image,” said a lawyer representing Park. The lawyer added they are trying to settle the charge with the accusers.

WHAT'S ON

April 1st - April 30th

1 - Monday

Festival: Jinhae Gunhangje Festival @ Jungwon Rotary, Changwon City; April 1-10; gunhang.changwon.go.kr

Festival: Last day of the Yeongdeok Snow Crab Festival @ Ganggu Port, Yeongdeok-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do; crab.yd.go.kr

Festival: Gaya Culture Festival @ Gimhae City; planned for early April; gcfkorea.com

2 - Tuesday

Lecture: Modernism in Asia @ Seoul Museum of History, Seminar Room; 10:30 am; RSVP yeol400@hanmail.net

Happy hour: All-you-can-drink beer 6-8 pm; 10,000 won @ Big Rock in Gangnam; Monday, Tuesday; bigrockbeer.co.kr

Food: Pasta night @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong (Tuesdays); craftworkstaphouse.com

3 - Wednesday

Festival: Icheon Baeksa Sansuyu Blossom Festival; April 5-7; 2104sansooyou.com

Social: Standup comedy (Wednesdays) @ Tony's in Itaewon; tonysitaewon.com

Exhibition: Festive Decorations around the World @ Korea Foundation Cultural Center Gallery; April 3-6; kf.or.kr

4 - Thursday

Festival: Hwagae Cherry Blossoms Festival @ Hadong-gun, Tea Cultural Center area; planned for early April; toureng.hadong.go.kr

Box office: Killing Them Softly opens at theaters nationwide

Festival: Seoul International Photo & Imaging Industry Show @ COEX in Seoul; April 4-7; photoshow.co.kr

5 - Friday

Festival: Jeju Cherry Blossom Festival @ Jeju Citizen Welfare Town area, Jeju City; April 5-7; festival.jeju.go.kr

K-pop: K-pop dance class @ Seoul Global Culture & Tourism Center; every Friday for March and April

6 - Saturday

Concert: ZEDD @ Walkerhill Theater, Sheraton Grande Walkerhill Hotel; ticket.interpark.com/Global

Tour: South Sea Island Extravaganza with Royal Asiatic Society; April 6-7, 7:30 am; Namhae-do & Jinhae; RSVP raskb.com

7 - Sunday

Festival: Last day of Nonsan Strawberry Festival @ Nonsan City; April 3-7; nsfestival.co.kr

Festival: Last day of Seoul International Photo & Imaging Industry Show @ COEX in Seoul; photoshow.co.kr

Image courtesy korea.net



Cheongpunchoban Cherry Blossom Festival is @ Jecheon City, from April 19-21.

8 - Monday

Food: Wing night @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong (Mondays); craftworkstaphouse.com

Korean class: First day of Itaewon Global Village Center's class; global.seoul.go.kr/itaewon

9 - Tuesday

Fitness: Korean Martial arts @ Seoul Global Culture & Tourism Center; every Tuesday for April and May

Lecture: North Korean gender relations in the post-famine era @ Residents' Lounge, Somerset Palace; 730 pm; RSVP raskb.com

10 Wednesday

Festival: Gyeongpo Cherry Blossom Festival @ Gangneung City; April 10-16

Happy hour: Ladies' night @ Big Rock in Gangnam; 1 free cocktail until 9 pm; Wednesdays; bigrockbeer.co.kr

11 - Thursday

Festival: Daegaya Experience Festival @ Daegaya Museum, Goryeong-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do; April 11-14; fest.daegaya.net

Box office: Perks Of Being A Wallflower opens at theaters nationwide

12 - Friday

Festival: Yeouido Spring Flower Festival @ Yujungno & Yeouido, Seoul City; April 12 - April 18; ydp.go.kr

Festival: Seokchon Lake Cherry Blossom Festival @ Jamsil, Seoul; April 12-14; songpa.go.kr

13 - Saturday

Concert: PSY @ Seoul World Cup Stadium; 55,000-110,000 won; ticket.interpark.com/Global

Reading: Darren Farrell reading from his book "Doug-Dennis and the Flyway Fib" @ What The Book; 11 am

14 - Sunday

Festival: Last day of Yeongchwisan Azalea Festival @ Yeosu Yeongchwisan Mt. area; April 12-14; ystour.kr/en/festival/jindallae.jsp

Tour: Woraksan National Park, Gosu Cave & Chungju Lake boat cruise with Royal Asiatic Society; 8 am; RSVP raskb.com

Yeouido Spring Flower Festival runs from April 12-18 at Yujungno and Yeouido, Seoul.



Image courtesy korea.net

15 - Monday

Food: Wing night @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong (Mondays)

Happy hour: All-you-can-drink beer 6-8 pm; 10,000 won @ Big Rock in Gangnam; Monday, Tuesday; bigrockbeer.co.kr

16 - Tuesday

Food: 2-For-1 fish & chips @ Wolfhound (Tuesdays); wolfhoundpub.com

Movie: Movie of the month is "Punch" @ Seorae Global Village Center; 1:30 pm; seorae@sba.seoul.kr

17 Wednesday

Social: Trivia night @ Beer O'Clock in Sinchon (Wednesdays); beeroclock.ca

Festival: Cheongdo Bullfighting Festival @ Sossaum Stadium, Cheongdo-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do; April 17-21; 청도소싸움.kr

Exhibit: Last day of Tim Burton exhibition @ Seoul Museum of Art

Food: Sunday Couples Day @ Big Rock in Gangnam; 10% off with ticket stubs; bigrockbeer.co.kr

For suggestions or comments,
e-mail calendar@groovekorea.com

*All the events published in this calendar are subject to unforeseen changes by the promoters. Groove Korea does not take responsibility for any misunderstandings or third party damage.

18 - Thursday 19 - Friday 20 - Saturday 21 - Sunday 22 - Monday 23 - Tuesday 24 Wednesday

Social: Open mic @ Orange Tree in HBC (Thursdays); (02) 749-8202

Festival: Cheongpung-hoban Cherry Blossom Festival @ Multae-ri, Cheongpung-myeon, Jecheon City; April 19-21; english. okjc.net

Festival: International Garden Exposition @ Suncheon Bay; April 20-Oct. 20;

Festival: Yeosu Ceramic Festival @ Sillesuksa-gil, Yeosu-eup, Yeosu-gun, Gyeonggi-do; April 21-May 13; yeojuceramic.com

Beer: 15,000 won all-you-can-drink beer @ Beer Garden, Renaissance Hotel, Gangnam (every day, 6-9 p.m.); (02) 2222-8630

Happy hour: Buy one Big Rock beer get one free @ Big Rock in Gangnam; 6-8 pm; Thursdays; bigrockbeer.co.kr

Social: Quiz night @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong (Wednesdays); craftworkstaphouse.com

Box office: Welcome to the Punch opens at theaters nationwide

Festival: Jeju Canola Flower Festival @ Udo-myeon, Jeju City; April 19-21; culture.jeju.go.kr

Concert: Evil Me More, Kasi, Gomangddola, Hammering, Cross Bones, Dinopunch @ Rolling Hall; rollinghall.co.kr; 6:30 pm

Concert: Dragon Force @ V-Hall in Hongdae; 6 pm; 69,000 won

Concert: Munich Philharmonic @ Seoul Arts Center, Concert Hall; 8 pm; sac.or.kr

Lecture: Scholars of the World Discuss Korea's Future @ Residents' Lounge, Somerset Palace; 730 pm; RSVP raskb.com

Ticket Tip: Go to ticket.interpark.com/Global to purchase tickets for ongoing musicals

Beer: 15,000 won all-you-can-drink @ Beer Garden. Renaissance Hotel; 6-9 pm (every day); (02) 2222-8630

Festival: Shinan Tulip Festival @ Daegwang Beach area; April 19-28; shinantulip.co.kr

Trip: Baekryun Temple Trip; Contact Helen Kim at whomre@kornet.net; depart Sadang Subway Station, Seoul at 7:50 am



Cheongpung-hoban Cherry Blossom Festival runs from April 19-21 at Jecheon City.

25 - Thursday 26 - Friday 27 - Saturday 28 - Sunday 29 - Monday 30 - Tuesday

Festival: Jindo Miracle Sea Parting Festival @ Hoedong-ri, Modo Island area, Jeollanam-do; April 25-28; miraclesea.jindo.go.kr

Festival: Hampyeong Butterfly Festival @ Hampyeong Expo Park, Jeollanam-do; April 26-May 8; hampyeong.jeonnam.kr

Festival: Mungyeong Traditional Chasabal Festival @ Mungyeongsaejae Provincial Park, Mungyeong City; April 27-May 5; sabal21.com

Festival: Shinan Tulip Festival @ Daegwang Beach area; planned for sometime in April depending on weather; shinantulip.co.kr

Festival: Last day of Danjong Culture Festival @ Yeongwol-eup, Gangwon Province; April 26-28; danjong.co.kr/index.asp

Festival: Goyang International Horticulture Festival @ Ilsan Lake Park, Goyang City; April 27-May 12; flower.or.kr

Happy Hour: 2,000 won off beer/wine @ Craftworks in Noksapyeong; 4-6 pm; craftworkstaphouse.com

Festival: Jeonju International Film Festival @ Jeonju City; April 25-May 3; jiff.or.kr

Festival: Gwangalli Eobang Festival @ Gwangalli Beach, Busan; April 26-28; festival-eobang.suyeong.go.kr

Concert: Whatever That Means with Skasucks and more @ Club Spot; facebook.com/ClubSpotHongdae; 7 pm

Festival: last day of Asan Great Admiral Yi Sun-Sin Festival @ Onyangoncheon Station Square, Asan City; April 26-28; e-sunshin.com

Musical: Tanguera (tango) @ LG Arts Center; April 25-May 8; 50,000 won-130,000 won; ticket.interpark.com/Global

Festival: Namwon Chunhyang Festival @ Chunhyang Culture and Art Center, Namwon City; April 26-30

Musical: Jesus Christ Superstar @ Charlotte Theater; 50,000 won-130,000 won; April 26-June 9; ticket.interpark.com/Global

Festival: last day of Ulsan Whale Festival @ Ulsan City; April 25-28; ulsanwhale.com

Box office: Iron Man 3 opens at theaters nationwide

Charity: SIWA Charity Gala @ Grand Hyatt Hotel; 7:30 p.m.; gala@siwapage.com or visit www.siwapage.com

Happy Hour: Unlimited cocktails @ Big Rock in Gangnam; 15,000 won; 7-10 pm, Saturdays; bigrockbeer.co.kr

Musical: Last day of Grease @ Kepco Art Center; 33,000 won-77,000 won; ticket.interpark.com/Global



The International Garden Exposition runs from April 20 to Oct. 20 at Suncheon Bay.

GAROSUGIL *finds*

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2 Tubor rose necklace
and earring set
SWAROVSKI
(Garosugil Boutique)
02.3447.0601

1 Modum Mari with tuna,
bacon and garlic
SCHOOL FOOD
(Garosugil Store)
02.510.5005



3 Rose Aurore Eau Fraiche
(Lemon, Rose and Musk)
L' OCCITANE
(Garosugil Store)
02.518.0027



5 Red basic
cap by Vital Blue
HAT'S ON
(Garosugil Store)
02.547.4905



4 Prawn, pork, shrimp and
chives dumplings
GOLD FISH
(Garosugil Location)
02.511.5266

6 Personal steel
broom and dustpan set
MARIKO.SH
(Garosugil Location)
02.3446.5093



7 Dark chocolate cupcake
**GENTLE
LADY CUPCAKE**
(Garosugil Store)
02.549.7778



8

Cobb Salad with avocado, bacon, black olive, egg, tomato, cheddar shred, mozzarella shred

PUBLIC HOUSE

(Garosugil Store)
02.541.2002



9

Wing tip shoes made with genuine leather

WINDY CITY

(Garosugil Store)
02.511.8133

M A P



ITAEWON *finds*

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2 Baked shrimps
BETWEEN
(Itaewon Location)
02.795.6164



3 Handmade Pearl necklace
CURIOUS CURIOUS
(Itaewon Location)
02.795.5869



1 Nike
Zoom Vomero + 7
NIKE TOWN
(Itaewon Store)
02.798.6453



5 100% Natural Lip
Shimmer By Burt's bees
OLIVE YOUNG
(Itaewon Store)
02.796.9047



7 Magpie Handcrafted beer
(Pale ale and Porter)
**MAGPIE
BREWING**
(Itaewon Location)
02.549.7778



4 Seasonal Fish Crudo
(Grey Mullet with citrus,
baby tomato, watercress)
GOSASOYO
(Itaewon Location)
02.338.3591

6 Electronic pets
FURBY by Hasbro
CONCIERGE
(Itaewon Store)
02.796.3599



9

Assorted spice bottles

HIGH STREET MARKET(Itaewon Location)
02.790.5450

10

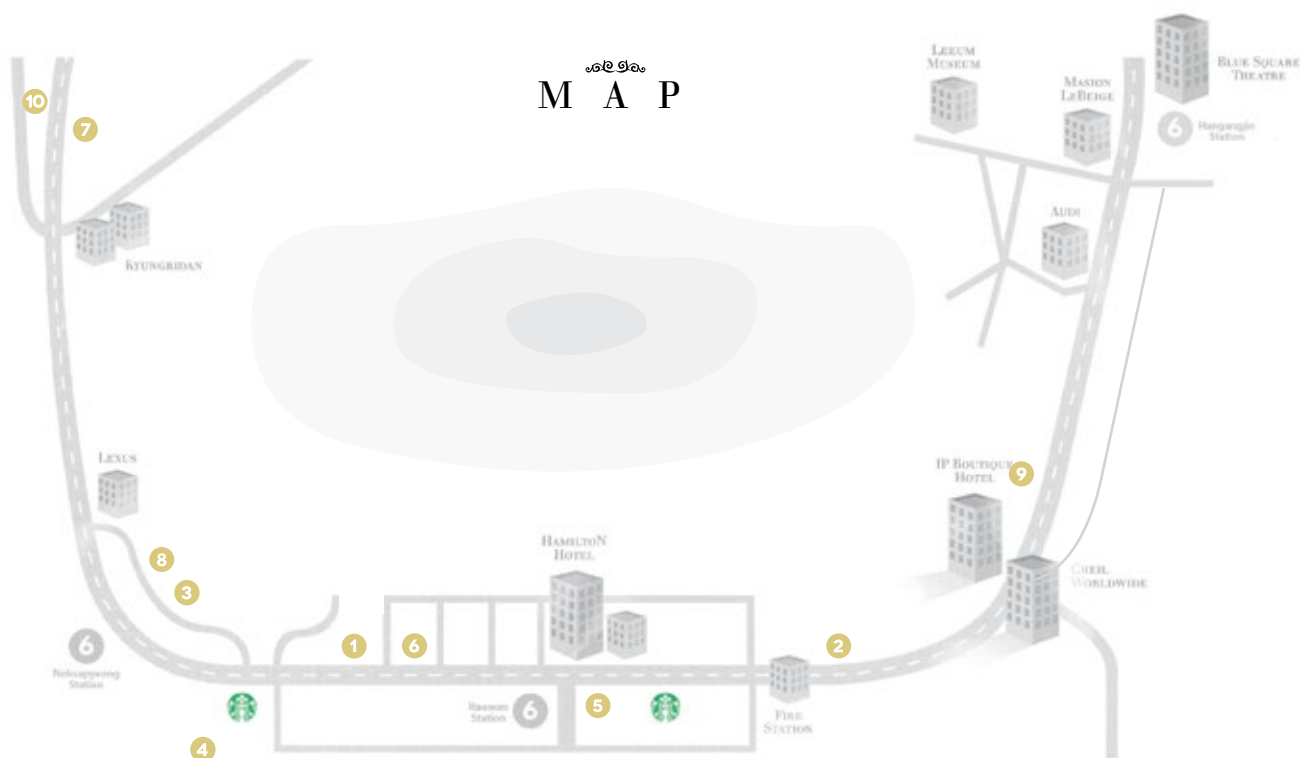
Dubai Burger
with beef, tomato and baked cheese**TWO HANZ BURGER**(Itaewon Location)
02.6401.7705

8

Pad thai (Thai fried noodle)

BUDDHA'S BELLY(Itaewon Location)
02.796.9330

M A P



DEAR KOREA: I STILL DON'T HAVE AIDS

Scapegoat: Korea sticks to its guns on AIDS tests for foreign teachers, despite a challenge from the U.N. and the fact that the tests have no public health benefit

Story by Matt VanVolkenburg, Ben Wagner, Matthew Lamers

Illustrations by Michael Roy

Have something to say?
mattlamers@groovekorea.com

“The Korean government has yet to explain the link between classroom teaching and HIV infection, require that Korean nationals with the same employment undergo testing, or provide any official data to support a link between sex crimes and E-2 visa holders.” — Lawyers for a Democratic Society



Josh Foreman, a married man, has been teaching English in Korea for six years. Because he is a foreign teacher, he has been required to submit HIV/AIDS test results since 2007. That requirement only falls on E-2 visa holders. He describes himself as a “normal guy” who doesn’t use drugs, doesn’t have any sexually transmitted diseases, is without a criminal record and doesn’t frequent Korea’s prostitution neighborhoods. He feels that mandatory HIV/AIDS testing for Western teachers is not only discriminatory, but it’s detrimental to public health.

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon agrees and has urged his country to lift the requirement. The AIDS Society of Asia and the Pacific, Human Rights Watch, the human rights law foundation GongGam and Lawyers for a Democratic Society have also spoken out against the testing.

“I have to take this test,” says Foreman, also Groove Korea’s Dining and Destinations editor. “It just happens over and over again. I’m a law-abiding citizen. I’ve had multiple criminal background checks since I’ve been in Korea. I’m college-educated. I’m a certified teacher in the U.S., and I’ve never been convicted of a crime. I never have and I never will sleep with a prostitute. I’ve had probably five AIDS tests since I’ve been in Korea. I don’t appreciate having to give up my blood for this test.”

“I’m being tested because I’m not Korean.”

Foreman was one of 22,319 E-2 visa-holding residents who were required to submit to HIV/AIDS testing last year — the last time he was required to do so.

The ongoing fight to have Korea’s mandatory foreigner HIV/AIDS testing overturned took on a new life in July 2012 when the U.N.’s International Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, known as CERD, accepted a case filed by a New Zealand woman who was refused a contract extension because she would not submit an HIV/AIDS test. The committee monitors the implementation of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD).

The case has major legal ramifications for Korea because a ruling in her favor would take precedence over any Korean regulations already in place. That is because Korea has been a party to the ICERD since 1978 and has declared that the treaty “has the same authority of domestic law and does not necessitate additional legislation.” Korea is party not only to the ICERD, but also the convention’s optional protocol, which is why it was open to the case from the New Zealand woman. It is the first time ICERD’s optional protocol has been used by an individual to bring a case against the Republic of Korea, which will be heard by the CERD.

The Korean government had three months to respond. Instead, it chose to ignore the actions of the United Nations and is now six months in arrears. There is no indication that Korea will act anytime soon. Not only has the government chosen to ignore the CERD, but so, too, has the country’s media. Nary a word

has been written by the country’s vernacular dailies about the challenge to the mandatory HIV/AIDS teacher testing. That stands in stark contrast to the mania that the media whipped up about, as one newspaper put it, the “the shocking perversions of some English teachers” in recent years.

That being said, the word is out in the Korean legal community. Lawyers for a Democratic Society (MINBYUN), an NGO focused on promoting democracy throughout the peninsula, plans to submit an amicus brief in favor of the CERD complaint.

In a letter asking that E-2 teachers come forward, the group explained why it is taking up the case: “The Korean government has yet to explain the link between classroom teaching and HIV infection, require that Korean nationals with the same employment undergo testing, or provide any official data to support a link between sex crimes and E-2 visa holders. Due to the discriminatory nature of the testing and under the premise that it is in violation with Korea’s commitment to the U.N. Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, we will be sending a letter of allegation to the U.N. Special Rapporteur on contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination and xenophobia and related intolerance.”

In 2010, the Prime Minister’s Office conducted a public-opinion poll, finding 80.7 percent of ordinary citizens in support of mandatory HIV tests for foreign teachers. In an interview in the Korea Herald in 2010, an official from the National Institute for International Education Development, a division of the Ministry of Education, cited concerns expressed by parents and doctors as a reason to enforce HIV test submissions, deportation and retesting. In the same article, Choi Hong-jun, deputy director of EPIK, cited the PMO survey as a reason to keep rigid HIV testing for foreigners intact.

Yet while concern is high, there have been no cases of students being infected with HIV by their foreign teachers.

WHY IT MATTERS

Scapegoating as a detriment to public health

Instead of attempting to correct the misperception of how HIV is transmitted through educational efforts, the government has decided to give the public a false sense of security by implementing symbolic HIV tests that have no public health benefit. Experts say the foreigner-only HIV tests are detrimental to public health because they ultimately limit efforts to expand domestic HIV prevention and treatment efforts.

“The idea of controlling HIV through testing foreigners ignores the nature of how HIV is transmitted and the fact that HIV transmission occurs locally,” wrote Joseph Amon, director of the Health and Human Rights Division, in an op-ed in the Korea Times. “The World Health Organization (WHO) recognized this in 1987, declaring the screening of international travelers for HIV to be ineffective as a public health strategy. Laws banning the entry of in-



dividuals living with HIV also tend to increase stigma and to create a false sense that only noncitizens are at risk for HIV.”

He continued: “These laws diminish efforts to expand domestic HIV prevention and treatment efforts. More fundamentally, these discriminatory laws are contradictory to human rights and an understanding that we all enjoy basic rights, regardless of our HIV status.”

“South Korea’s restrictions on entry, stay and residence for people living with HIV broadly violate international human rights law provisions banning discrimination and upholding equality.”

In fact, the Education Ministry has stated that mandatory HIV testing “does not mean the government regards foreign teachers to be HIV positive or have the potential of transmission; it is just intended to assure the parents.” Public concern over foreign English teachers and the threat of AIDS is enormously



disproportional to the potential for any objective harm — a fact that even public officials appear willing to admit.

TAKING A STAND

Korea draws a line in the sand at AIDS testing for teachers

Despite serious trepidations, Korea joined with the international community in rejecting compulsory HIV screenings for international travelers in the late 1980s. Since then, along with other nations, Korea has pledged to combat the stigma associated with HIV and to eliminate discrimination against those living with HIV or suspected of being HIV positive in two ways: first, by becoming a party to the U.N. Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS in 2001, and second, by joining in subsequent declarations.

In June 2009, U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon advised the ROK to lift its ban on all foreigners with HIV/AIDS.

In September of that year, then-President Lee Myung-bak concurred, informing the U.N. secretary general that Korea would remove its ban on entry for foreigners living with HIV and that HIV testing requirements for all non-citizens living and working in Korea would be abolished. The following January, Korea, together with the United States, pledged to remove all HIV travel restrictions on foreigners. In March 2010, before the U.N. Human Rights Council, the ROK reaffirmed its commitment to remove restrictions for “foreigners living with HIV in compliance with U.N. recommendations ... as part of the effort to eliminate all forms of discrimination.” At the same meeting, the Korean presenter recounted the progress Korea had made on its pledge; and

indeed the ROK had made substantial progress by officially eliminating HIV restrictions on entry, stay and residence for most groups of noncitizens — but not for foreign teachers.

The ROK’s refusal to abandon its HIV restrictions on foreign language teachers — including mandatory testing, retesting, loss of employment and the threat of deportation — puts into serious question its commitment to eliminating all forms of HIV-related restrictions for noncitizens. This breach was made all the more conspicuous when the U.N. secretary general, a Korean national who has made the removal of the stigma and discrimination associated with AIDS a personal mission, was forced to amend his congratulatory message to the ROK for “ending restrictions towards people living with HIV” and urge his home country to eliminate this final HIV restriction on foreigners as promised.

Unfortunately, the secretary general's plea fell on deaf ears. As a result, Korea has remained on UN-AIDS' (Joint United Nations Program on HIV and AIDS), list of 49 countries which continue to have HIV restrictions in place.

Reneging on a promise to remove the mandatory HIV/AIDS tests to the secretary general of the United Nations, while admitting that the testing of foreign teachers has little public health benefit, beg the questions: How did we get to this, and why is Korea sticking to its guns on these policies?

BAD PRESS TO BAD POLICY

Moral panic over foreign English teachers

On Oct. 28, 2007, the Korean government first gave notice of a new policy for foreign teachers in a widely circulated press release entitled "Illegal native speaker conversation instructors will no longer be tolerated." The government's press announcement was followed weeks later by a policy memo from the Ministry of Justice, which called for a crackdown on native speakers living and working in Korea because of "serious social problems arising from foreign language instructors employed in Korea who are breaking the law."

The MOJ declared that foreign teachers working on E-2 native speaking conversation instructor visas would have to undergo medical tests for HIV and drugs at designated hospitals inside Korea, while immigration authorities stated that "(t)hose that are found to have drug intake, (or) AIDS ... will have their stay canceled and be deported."

In describing the "serious social outcry" over foreign teachers in Korea, the MOJ cited general "news media coverage about those unqualified E-2 teaching visa holders" who "were caught for fraudulent diplomas, drugs, sexual offenses, etc." according to the Residence Policy Division of the Korea Immigration Service.

The catalyst to all of this was the arrest of Christopher Paul Neil in Thailand, a serial child sex offender. The MOJ made specific mention of a news report on Oct. 17, 2007, by KBS, which was broadcast only 11 days before the new measures were announced.

Neil was captured in Thailand and arrested for the sexual abuse of Thai children after an international manhunt led by Interpol. Although Neil's offenses had occurred outside of Korea and there were no Korean victims, local interest was high as Interpol had identified Neil as an English teacher working

in Korea just prior to his arrest. Neil was not HIV positive or involved with drugs; Neil was also not an E-2 visa holder.

"I'm being tested because I'm not Korean." — Josh Foreman

Many foreign teachers assumed, however, that Neil's arrest was nonetheless directly responsible for the introduction of the new measures for E-2 visa holders. Yet while Neil's notorious status as an "illegal native speaker" and the moral panic it had provoked had indeed served as the opportunity to introduce the measures, pressure had been mounting to do something about native speaking English teachers, who were increasingly being perceived as morally problematic.

News of Neil's arrest stirred exaggerated and distorted claims from the media. On Oct. 17, 2007, MBC stated "incidents surrounding native-speaking instructors are neverending." The next day, the Seoul Sinmun worried that Korea would become "a paradise for criminals from English-speaking nations" since native speakers could easily find good jobs in the country, and the JoongAng Ilbo speculated that "there must be even more crimes that have yet to be revealed."

Also on Oct. 18, the Hankook Ilbo asserted that "society now knows just how deep the pitfalls of native-speaking teachers are" and the JoongAng Ilbo declared that "the insecurity of school parents concerning native speaker teachers and instructors is growing by the day."

The nation was primed for panic. The JoongAng Ilbo called on authorities to "hurry and formulate measures."

These calls for action were immediately followed. The MOJ's press release "Illegal native speaker conversation instructors will no longer be tolerated" came exactly 10 days later. It announced strict measures against native speakers and made clear that deviants among them would "no longer be tolerated." In Korean, the phrase literally means "there is no place to stand" for these teachers, and the deportation measures made clear that the intent is to expel them from Korean society.

YOU SAID IT: READERS' THOUGHTS



KIM HAN-AH

Student

Korea

Mandatory HIV/AIDS testing is a good idea in that it helps the rate of infection stay low in Korea and raise awareness, but to make this work, both foreign and Korean teachers should be required to take the tests, since people might feel discriminated against.

I've seen so many Korean people who are still xenophobic and this probably affects them when they make decisions like this.



HONG KI-KANG

Manager

Korea

When a student from Korea wants to study in England, he or she has to get a tuberculosis test, so I think it's pretty much the same for foreign teachers to get an AIDS test to teach Korean students in Korea.

The opinions expressed in this section do not necessarily represent those of Groove Korea. —Ed.

In channeling the public's generalized animus toward native speakers into immigration crackdown measures, the MOJ was forced to decide which visa category to target and what type of sanctions to deploy. In both decisions it was guided by a citizens' group of moral entrepreneurs who had campaigned for over two years to expel problematic foreign English teachers from Korea. The group had already been very effective in persuading the Korean media to give attention to its cause and, with the moral panic surrounding Neil's arrest, the group found itself in a position to influence national policy when it was invited by the MOJ to attend a conference to plan the crackdown measures against so-called "illegal native speakers."

The meeting, called the "Conference to Plan Measures Regarding Problems Related to Verifying Qualifications and the Issuance of E-2 Visas," was held at the Ministry of Justice on Oct. 23, 2007.

THE SOURCE OF THE BAD POLICY

An 'Anti-English' spectrum of intolerance

When the aforementioned citizens' group first formed in 2005, it called itself Anti-English Spectrum; it would later call itself the Citizens' Movement to Expel Illegal Foreign Language Teachers, as well as its current name, the Citizens' Group for Upright English Education (herein referred to as Citizens' Group for short). At the time of Neil's arrest this group had already lobbied and petitioned the government for mandatory HIV and drug tests for foreign teachers on E-2 visas.

The Citizens' Group had originally formed on the internet during an earlier controversy which had also resulted in a moral panic over foreign English teachers. In mid-January 2005, the mainstream Korean news media began to report on the sudden, spreading anger of Korean netizens towards foreign English teachers because of risqué photos showing Korean women and foreign men at a "sexy costume party" at a nightclub in the Hongik University area (aka Hongdae). These photos were first posted at a foreign English teacher-oriented website named English Spectrum but were then spread throughout Korean cyberspace by Korean netizens. With numerous sensational reports highlighting the "lewd" aspects of the photos — one such report was published by Dailian News on Jan. 13, 2005 — enough attention was drawn to the issue to make "foreign instructor" the third most

frequent search term that week on the popular Internet portal Daum. The photos of Western men and Korean women aroused the ire of Korean netizens who severely criticized both sets of participants: The "low quality," lascivious foreign English teachers who were seen as purveyors of "vulgar foreign culture," according to an Anti-English Spectrum cafe banner on Jan. 18, 2005, and the Korean women who were publicly shamed for being seen behaving in such a way, especially with foreign men.

In response to the English teacher forum where the photos were posted, the netizens named themselves Anti-English Spectrum and started their own forum, or "café," at Naver.com, Korea's largest portal site. The group claimed that their reason for forming was because foreign English teachers had "debased the image of Korean women in such a dirty and humiliating way," which made them feel "something beyond rage, a feeling of unendurable humiliation," according to the group's statement of purpose. They pledged to "fight against English Spectrum ... and also against illegal, low-quality English instructors." Remarkably, the group was able to quickly attract some 10,000 online members. As of March 21, 2013, it had retained 15,971 members.

The group was also able to generate support from public officials. In its first week of operation, the group joined in a petition drive that called on National Assembly representatives and government ministries to "expel low-quality foreign instructors." In response to the petition, assemblyman Lee Gun-hyeon told the press that "problems with foreign instructors have arisen in the past, but recently, as the number of foreign instructors has increased, so have these problems." Rep. Lee called for "a thorough crackdown" on foreign teachers and said the government needed to "strengthen existing qualification screening."

The group has suggested that AIDS-infected foreign teachers have purposely spread the disease (reported in the Korea Herald on Nov. 20, 2009), while molesting children (reported in an SBS radio interview on July 9, 2010), raping Korean women (reported in Seoul Sinmun on Nov. 14, 2008) and consuming large quantities of narcotics. Members of the group also discussed printing these accusations onto calling cards intended for distribution on the streets of Seoul, though there is no indication they followed through with the plan.

The group's successful strategy for sustaining



JOE V
Teacher
USA

Mandatory HIV/AIDS testing only for foreign teachers is morally reprehensible and is an example par excellence of the xenophobia that plagues Korean society. On the other hand, we as foreigners have no innate right to live or work here and Korea is a sovereign nation with the right to grant work visas to whom they wish under the conditions they choose. For me, it's a regrettable requirement to live and work in a place I enjoy.



A.W. HERBST
Teacher
South Africa

Many teachers are offended by the compulsory HIV/AIDS tests. I understand why, but it's also a necessary evil in this day and age. It's better to know your status.

interest in its cause was to organize its own offline investigations of foreign English teachers in order to gather material of interest to the Korean media. In the years since the group formed, it has succeeded in portraying foreign English teachers as womanizers, rapists, child molesters and drug users.

The Korea Herald quoted from the group's website in a March 2010 article: "(HIV) infected foreigners are indiscriminately spreading the virus," it said. "It is not yet known whether a foreign AIDS-infected people's organization is responsible for inciting these people, or whether it is the infected foreigners within Korea just working amongst themselves. The only truth known from the rumor is that these people are spreading AIDS in order to make their existence known."

The group has been a frequent contributor to reports in the mainstream and tabloid press with headlines such as "Tracking Blacklisted English Teachers Suspected of Having AIDS" (Breaknews, Sept. 18, 2006) and "From Molestation to AIDS Threats, the Shocking Perversions of Some English Teachers: Beware the 'Ugly White Teacher'" (Sports Chosun, May 27, 2006). While the group is described in the latter article as right-thinking "citizens angered by the nakedly sexual talk and actions of those kinds of white foreign teachers," they claim to have contributed to more than 90 news articles and television programs on foreign English teachers in Korea and have been very successful in shaping public opinion and influencing national policy.

As noted, in the days following the arrest of Christopher Paul Neil, the MOJ immigration policy team reached out to the group and invited its leader to attend the Oct. 23 conference. The MOJ's new measures for E-2 visa holders, announced just four days after this meeting, reflected the position advocated by the group of requiring E-2 visa holders to be subject to HIV and drug tests.

In the five years since the mandatory in-country HIV and drug test measures were put into effect, they have accomplished the group's goal of "expelling" foreign teachers — if not literally from Korean territory, then symbolically from Korean society — by branding them with the stigma associated with AIDS and drugs.

Spread out over several years, the Korean public has witnessed two overarching narratives regarding foreign English teachers: first are the reports that all are required to undergo HIV tests, and second are the stories describing these teachers as morally

problematic and prone to criminal behavior. For this reason, it is perhaps not surprising that there has been so much public concern in South Korea over foreign English teachers and an alleged threat of AIDS.

SYMBOLIC STIGMA

AIDS as a vehicle for discriminatory animus

To understand why the HIV restrictions for foreigners in Korea were introduced and why they have remained in place for foreign language instructors, one must look at what is called symbolic stigma, where AIDS is used as a vehicle for discriminatory animus.

Researchers in AIDS-related stigma distinguish between instrumental stigma and symbolic stigma. While instrumental stigma derives from fear of AIDS perceived as a communicable and lethal illness, "(s)ymbolic AIDS stigma derives its force from the association of HIV with disliked groups," according to Gregory M. Herek in "Thinking about AIDS and Stigma: A Psychologist's Perspective." It "is based on the metaphorical social meanings attached to AIDS, the people who get it, and the ways in which it is transmitted."

In "Popularising Purity: Gender, Sexuality and Nationalism in HIV/AIDS Prevention for South Korean Youths," professor Sealing Cheng explained that in Korea "HIV/AIDS gains its social meanings at the intersection of discourses about gender, sexuality and nationalism" and serves as "a metaphor of foreign contamination" as well as "a metaphor for fears of women out-of-control at times of rapid social transformations." The HIV restrictions for foreign teachers find their basis in both of these metaphorical social meanings. According to Cheng, they were constructed as a symbolic barricade against the threat of miscegenation, and also as an incitement for Korean women to maintain racial and sexual "purity" for the good of the nation.

In Korea, as Cheng explains, "because HIV/AIDS is constructed as a moral and sexual onslaught against the Korean nation, the sexuality of Korean women becomes all the more a target of censure." The 2006 Breaknews article calls the virtue of women who have slept with foreign teachers into question and casts them in a negative light, describing the "serious problems" arising due to "promiscuous sexual relations between foreign teachers and Korean women." At the same time, however, the article portrays these women as foreign English teachers' "sexual playthings" and



JOSH YOCHER

Teacher

USA

Unless HIV/AIDS testing is required for Korean teachers as well, it is discrimination. The simple fact of the matter is that for our jobs, it is completely unnecessary, and highlights a severe lack of understanding of how HIV/AIDS is spread.



KIM SO-YOUNG

Manager

Korea

If I was a mother, concerned with the safety of my children, I would understand why parents would demand AIDS tests on their children's school teachers. However, if mandatory AIDS tests for foreign teachers are being enforced, this should equally apply to local teachers as well, not only foreigners. The fact that they are demanding it only for foreign teachers is very discriminatory, which shows how Korea is still too closed-minded.

victims, who are "being defenselessly exposed to AIDS" by "degenerate foreign English instructors."

The formulation here is consistent with a general tendency where, as Cheng notes, "women are simultaneously blamed for causing and spreading HIV/AIDS, and markedly vulnerable to infection." The formulation also supports a nationalist narrative in which Korean women fraternizing with Western men are portrayed as promiscuous.

Professor Sheila Miyoshi Jager explains that they emerged as "the symbol of the nation's shame as well as the rallying point for national resistance."

'SHAME' ON THE WOMEN

The root of the resentment: Anti-Americanism

In fact, this essential formula has animated the nationalist movement to subject foreign English teachers to mandatory HIV tests which, as will be recalled, originated with the Korean women pictured with foreign men in the Hongdae club photos. The Citizens' Group began its campaign against "illegal, low quality foreign English teachers" by shaming these women as foreigners' whores. Shortly after the photos appeared in the press a post on the group's website on Jan. 14, 2005, told members: "This is the chance to humiliate those crazy bitches."

Media reports described other comments such as: "Whores, are Western bastards that good?" as reported in the Chosun Ilbo on Jan. 24, 2005, and "I hate the girls more than the Westerners who were with them," according to a JoongAng Daily article

purpose of criticizing low-quality foreigners whatsoever, branded us as whores, yanggongju and pimps," one woman said.

The branding of these women as "yanggongju" was highly significant in sparking a nationalist movement, as this label reproduced a well-known "folk devil" of Korean society capable of provoking strong feelings of righteousness. Yanggongju is a derogatory term coined during the Korean War period that is used to refer to Korean women in U.S. military gijichon (camptowns) who work as sex workers, have relationships with or marry U.S. soldiers. Accordingly, the term, which literally means "Western princess," is often translated as either "foreigners' whore" or "G.I. bride." The yanggongju were "treated as trash" and considered the "lowest of the low" in Korean society, wrote professor Katherine Moon in "Sex Among Allies."

"The fact that they have mingled flesh and blood with foreigners (yangnom) in a society that has been racially and culturally homogenous for thousands of years makes them pariahs and a disgrace to themselves and their people, Korean by birth but no longer in body and spirit," explained Moon. "Neo-Confucian moralism regarding women's chastity and strong racist conscience among Koreans have branded these women as doubly impure."

As professor Jager pointed out, "the threat of miscegenation posed by the foreign soldier challenged the very foundations of Koreans' self-identity as a pure and pristine people whose racial integrity has remained identifiable throughout centuries." The stigmatization of the Korean women in the Hongdae club photos as yanggongju was one of the main reasons the foreign English teacher issue became so salient and has had so much staying power.

A 1965 study of U.S. military camptowns noted the "buffer effect" these areas were supposed to have in shielding Koreans from contamination by American culture. Especially emphasized was how, like these spaces, "the yanggongju function as a protection for the 'nice' women of Korea," wrote Felix Moos in "Some Aspects of Korean Acculturation and Value Orientation since 1950." From the perspective of the Korean authorities, life inside the camptown areas was said to represent "moral disorder and a marked decline of Korean morals." And the yanggongju who had become acculturated to it were viewed as "contaminating agents of acceptable Korean social behavior," according to Moos.

Remarkably, 40 years later, the women who appeared in the Hongdae club photos were viewed in the same way, and even the Hongdae area was

Instead of attempting to correct the misperception of how HIV is transmitted through educational efforts, the government has decided to give the public a false sense of security by implementing symbolic HIV tests that have no public health benefit.

on Jan. 16, 2005. These women were tracked down online, threatened and severely harassed. Several were interviewed. "The Anti-English Spectrum Café ... with no connection to their original



JAMES TOPPLE

Teacher / Artist

England

There are no laws protecting (foreigners) against racism and mandatory HIV tests are quite simply a violation of human rights. The English language media is generally seen as a joke. More worthwhile articles like this should be published, instead of ill informed ramblings and restaurant reviews.



PARK YONG-HEE

Manager

Korea

Korea is an egotistic country in the sense that most of the system in Korea is not foreigner-friendly. Although Korea benefits from foreigners working in Korea, they ignore the equality. It is going to take some time until Korea becomes a true multi-racial country.

treated as if it had become morally contaminated like a U.S. military camptown.

Seeing two familiar folk devils like the lascivious Western male and the yanggongju successfully incite a nationalist movement to expel foreigners as an AIDS threat recalls the nation's earliest attempts to impose HIV restrictions on foreigners some 20 years earlier. These efforts culminated in public demonstrations around the time of the 1988

on Oct. 14, 1988, titled "Obscene magazines, degenerate movies, AIDS: 'Let's expel low-quality American culture.'"

The Donga Ilbo article explored ways "to expel AIDS and American pornographic prostitution culture." It also claimed that "the spread of AIDS is not a problem limited to some prostitutes but is a threat to the independence of the nation." Activists in the article linked "the ravaging of Korean women by U.S. forces in Korea" with the "unfair ROK-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement" (SOFA), which they argued allowed USFK to act with impunity and to treat Korean females like "conquered women."

According to the December 1988 Korea Times article "SOFA Emerges as Major Cause of Anti-Americanism," politicians from the Party for Peace and Democracy backed the activists' calls for mandatory tests for U.S. soldiers and touted SOFA revisions as a means toward the "full restoration of sovereignty and national pride."

As they were unable to alter SOFA, however, U.S. soldiers remained out of reach of legislators.

AIDS AND THE 1988 OLYMPICS

Koreans, foreigners and 'AIDS-free certificates'

While attempts at expulsion were aimed at American soldiers, the Aug. 31, 1988, Milwaukee Journal article "Koreans Demand AIDS Tests: Groups Want Mandatory Screening of Visitors to Olympics" described how efforts to exclude foreigners suspected of being HIV positive were focused on the mass of foreign tourists arriving for the Olympic Games in 1988, a population who many feared would spread AIDS among an estimated 1 million South Korean sex workers.

In the lead up to the Olympic Games, it was clear that the government also had public health concerns about the impending influx of foreigners and was vacillating on whether to stand with the emerging position of the international community or to seek mandatory HIV screenings for the foreign Olympic visitors. A year before the start of the Games, on July 15, 1987, Health and Social Affairs Minister Rhee Hai-won was quoted in the JoongAng Ilbo as saying that "there will be some 300,000 tourists from all over the world coming to stay in our country for three months, but as there are no measures in place to prevent AIDS infection, there are concerns that after the Olympics a domestic outbreak of AIDS will occur."

In May 1987, at the 40th World Health Assembly in Geneva, Yonhap News reported that Rhee told

Because of its extreme position on foreign teachers, which includes in-country HIV tests that must be repeated on a regular basis, the ROK now ranks as one of the most restrictive countries among those with some form of HIV restrictions in place.

Olympic Games and ultimately found legal expression in an amendment to the AIDS Prevention Act that was passed on Nov. 28, 1987, eight months after the first death of a Korean from AIDS was reported.

The HIV restrictions for foreigners that were initially contemplated for inclusion in the act took two approaches to AIDS prevention: exclusion from the territory and expulsion. A Korea Times article published on March 21, 1987, titled "Korea to expel foreigners infected by the AIDS virus" reported that "the anti-AIDS law ... will allow the Justice Ministry to refuse the entry of AIDS-causing virus carriers and to order the departure of foreign residents carrying or suffering from the dreadful disease." Nevertheless, although popular support for the legislation was strong, neither of these approaches were fully realized.

Attempts by activists to expel foreigners were directed at U.S. Forces Korea (USFK) and their relations with so-called yanggongju in the camptown areas. Activists made clear that their attempts to expel AIDS from Korea were part of a larger symbolic effort to "drive out the obscene American culture which holds Korean women in contempt," as was reported by a Donga Ilbo article published



SABRINA HILL

Teacher / Photographer

Canada

Rarely do legitimate democratic institutions, bound by a constitution, and for which one is a signatory of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, conduct regular compulsory HIV/AIDS testing as is the case with the Korean government and its gratuitous testing of highly educated, invited guests with specific visas.

It is particularly reprehensible when such governments specifically single out a small yet visible minority; less based on science and a concern for community welfare, but rather this group is repeatedly used as subjects of theater and to appease a generally obtuse citizenry which fail to recognize the inefficacy of such highly selective and a generally ineffective testing strategy.

This system is both as a product of ingrained institutionalized racism in Korea and a general lack of awareness of the pathology and transmission of such diseases as the human immunodeficiency virus.

member nations, "in some countries of the world, foreign AIDS carriers or patients are the main factors behind the spread of AIDS." Rhee urged the WHO to adopt "strong measures" and stressed that "the only way to prevent foreign AIDS carriers from spreading the disease is to examine overseas travelers before they leave their countries, especially those nations with a large number of AIDS patients," he added. Rhee proposed that overseas travelers therefore be required to carry HIV/AIDS-free health certificates.

Rhee's proposal, however, was not accepted.

When it was reported in the international press that South Korea would require Olympic tourists to carry "AIDS-free certificates" Rhee quickly backed away from his earlier statements and the ROK made no further demands for screenings. The Toronto Star ran a story on July 15, 1987, titled: "Olympic Games Tourists Must be AIDS-Free, South Korea Says," and the next day, the article "Olympic Tourists Must Carry AIDS-free Bill" appeared in the Manila Standard.

With mandatory screenings for Olympic visitors out of reach, the government focused its efforts on discouraging sex between Koreans and foreigners. Peter Hartcher's Sydney Morning Herald article on April 5, 1988, "Seoul: Look But Don't Touch" illustrated this point.

A special police force was set up to stand guard at tourist hotels throughout the city in order to prevent foreign guests from entering with Korean sex workers. Pornographic magazines were removed from hotel bookstores. Olympic hostesses acting as interpreters and assistants for foreign delegates were warned not to have sex with them or risk contracting AIDS. On the eve of the Olympics, pamphlets were distributed to all households in the city that warned citizens to take every precaution to avoid the "horrible disease." Each mentioned that the first diagnosed AIDS case in Korea was an American, and stressed the high number of AIDS cases overseas.

By December 1988, the AIDS Prevention Act had already been in force for over a year but no foreigners had yet been made subject to its application: Olympic tourists had been able to avoid the legislation, U.S. soldiers were still shielded by SOFA and a political battle was under way over which group of foreigners the act should be able to reach in their stead. The opposition party had pushed for an amendment requiring "AIDS-free certificates" for all foreign arrivals, but in a com-

promise with the government, settled on tests for foreigners staying for longer than three months, or so-called "long-term sojourners," according to Nam Yu-chol's Korea Times article on Jan. 31, 1989. The question then became which of these "long-term sojourners" should be subjected to the tests, a situation a health ministry official in the same article called the "obscene problem (of trying) to sort out 'targeted' foreigners."

PARALLELS TO TODAY

English teachers as the new American soldiers

A similar issue would be faced by the MOJ in 2007 when it selected the E-2 visa category in an attempt to expel the native English speakers who may have been in possession of any number of visa categories teaching English in the country illegally, including tourist visas.

In the case of the amendment to the AIDS Prevention Act in 1988, the "targeted foreigners" eventually became those on E-6 visas, the so-called "entertainer's visa," an awkward visa category that includes actors, fashion models, professional athletes as well as sex workers. The June 18, 1988, presidential decree listed the "examination subjects" as "those entering the country with the goal of sojourning for 91 days or more to engage in performance entertainment, show business, sports and entertainment-related businesses or activities in order to make a profit."

The procedure set up under the AIDS Prevention Act could be said to represent the legal expression of the movement in 1988 that sought to exclude foreigners with HIV from Korea. That is, the act made clear that HIV/AIDS-free certificates were to be issued by a "medical center in the sending country of the visa applicant," according to the act, and was to be presented to the Ministry of Health "before entering the country."

Put succinctly, foreigners living with HIV were to be thereby excluded from Korean territory.

The procedure for E-2 visa holders, however, which takes place independent of the AIDS Prevention Act, is very different and can properly be said to represent a popular movement to expel foreigners from Korea. In fact, even for newly arriving native English speakers, the new policy memo dictated that E-2 visa holders must be HIV tested only after entering the Republic of Korea at hospitals inside Korea, and rather than submitting the HIV/AIDS-free certificates to the Ministry of Health, E-2 visa holders were required to submit them to the

MARYBETH ANDERSON

Teacher

USA

As a foreign teacher in Korea, I personally like the HIV/AIDS test! Korea has a very low rate of infection, and these tests ensure that the rate stays low; from a public health standpoint, this is wonderful. Additionally, it's a nice reassurance every year about another virus I don't have to worry about!

MONIQUE

Korea

It's not that big of a deal. I took HIV/AIDS tests for work visas in Japan and Ecuador. The United States used to require the test for some visas. During this time, there were still programs promoting safe sex and HIV/AIDS awareness. Maybe people disagree with limited HIV/AIDS awareness in Korea.

Ministry of Justice when they register for alien residency, which occurred any time up to three months after entry.

After a year and a half in effect, this policy memo became an attachment to an immigration control act enforcement regulation in April 2009.

The restrictions for foreign teachers in 2007 thus went further than those under the AIDS Prevention Act in 1988, and most resembled failed attempts to expel U.S. soldiers with mandatory HIV testing.

Foreign teachers are unlike foreign soldiers in

eign teachers on E-2 visas took only two months to be implemented and was created on the authority of a policy memo without even a law being passed.

Challenges raised regarding the ability of an immigration policy memo, created without legislative oversight, to impose such severe restrictions on the rights of foreign residents were met with an explanation from the MOJ declaring that the “policy memo has enough legal authority to implement the visa requirement as it was created by the Justice Ministry on the government’s behalf,” according to the article “Visa Rules for Foreign English Teachers Challenged,” published by the JoongAng Daily on Feb. 5, 2009. In April 2009, the MOJ’s October 2007 policy memo was finally included as an attachment to administrative immigration regulations and thus — after being in effect for a year and a half — achieved some semblance of legality.

Strikingly, in the case of the HIV retests demanded by the Ministry of Education for foreign teachers working in public schools, there are no legal regulations at all; foreign teachers are simply required by various government education offices to present medical certificates from designated Korean hospitals demonstrating HIV-negative status before they are allowed to renew their one-year employment contracts.

LEGAL CHALLENGES

Exhausting domestic remedies

Lisa Griffin’s ordeal began shortly after she refused to take an HIV test for a public school position in Ulsan in 2009. The school refused to renew her contract, and she was forced to leave the country. Her attorney at the time was Kyunghee University law school professor Benjamin Wagner — one of the authors of this article.

She filed a complaint with the National Human Rights Commission of Korea, which was ultimately rejected. She also put in a request to the Korean Commercial Arbitration Board (KCAB) for nonadversarial mediation with her school — which was also refused. The case then went into arbitration, where, after two years, the board ruled against her.

With domestic remedies exhausted, there was another option: the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD).

In February 2009, members of a foreign teachers association in Korea filed some 50 individual complaints against the HIV and drug test measures with

In Korea, “HIV/AIDS gains its social meanings at the intersection of discourses about gender, sexuality and nationalism” and serves as “a metaphor of foreign contamination” as well as “a metaphor for fears of women out-of-control at times of rapid social transformations.” — Professor Sealing Cheng

that they are without any SOFA-like extraterritorial protections.

Thus, in choosing to focus its efforts on foreign teachers, the Citizens’ Group’s movement was able to accomplish what earlier groups had failed to achieve: mandatory HIV tests and deportations targeted at a group of non-Korean men (a large number of whom were American) residing in Korea who were seen as acting with impunity and treating Korean women with contempt. There is little doubt that the members of the group view such an accomplishment as significant progress in the “restoration of sovereignty and national pride,” as the Party for Peace and Democracy put it in 1988.

There are similarities between the two attempts to impose mandatory HIV tests on foreigners, despite the fact that they occurred 20 years apart. A remarkable contrast, however, is that while it took years of political wrangling and legislative action before the first E-6 visa holding foreigners were finally screened for HIV under the AIDS Prevention Act, the in-country test and deportation policy for for-

SOPHIE BOLADERAS

Teacher / Photographer

New Zealand

I read in Time magazine that in 2007 some Korean press reports ignited rumors that foreign English teachers were molesting students and spreading HIV/AIDS. Apparently the reports were never substantiated, but the government began to require that all foreign teachers get tested. If there was some evidence that proved that foreign teachers were bringing HIV/AIDS into the country then certainly there might be some reasoning behind the decision to test every foreign teacher.

But this is not so.

I do feel that xenophobia still exists among some in this homogeneous nation and that this is the reason foreign teachers are required to have these tests, while Korean teachers are not.



the National Human Rights Commission of Korea (NHRCK). The teachers' complaints were supported by Human Rights Watch, an international nongovernmental organization, which submitted an open letter "strongly (urging) the NHRCK to find that the existing E-2 teaching visa policy is discriminatory and to recommend the abolition of the policy's HIV testing requirement."

In June 2009, the Korean Public Interest Lawyers' Group (GongGam) petitioned the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Korea on behalf of Andrea Vandom, now a Ph.D. student in International Relations at the University of California. Vandom's attorney — also one of the authors of this report — argued that the HIV and drug test requirements had been "imposed with no reasonable ground," as reported in the *The Korea Times* on June 2, 2009, and were "based on vague prejudice and bias that foreign English teachers have disordered sex lives and use drugs." The same month the *Korea Times* reported that the NHRCK told the press it planned "to hold a public hearing on the (E-2 visa issue in June) in order to finalize an official position as early as July."

However, the NHRCK canceled its plans for a public hearing and, instead of issuing any recommendations as promised, rejected all complaints. Complainants received identical rejection letters, which read, "regarding the claim about health checks including HIV tests the Commission deems it inappropriate to investigate as an individual complaint." One complainant who received the rejection letter from the NHRCK posted it on the internet for public access.

On Sept. 29, 2011, nearly two and a half years after Vandom's petition was filed with the Constitutional Court, the court rejected her complaint. The court examined the "E-2 Applicant's Health Statement" and found that since Vandom was not an E-2 visa applicant but seeking to extend her E-2 visa she lacked standing to challenge the regulation. Because Vandom was residing in Korea when the HIV and drug tests were first introduced, she was never required to prepare the questionnaire as a visa applicant that would eventually become a mandatory test requirement once she arrived in Korea. Nevertheless, the MOJ demanded that she submit test results for HIV and drugs and had threatened her publicly with deportation if she refused.

The Court's disinclination to adjudicate the controversial case is apparent. In a separate but concurring opinion Judge Kim Jong-dae argued that Vandom's petition should be rejected because "(under) our Constitution only 'nationals' (gungmin) are entitled to fundamental rights."

Nevertheless, while Vandom's attorney had presented international law arguments against the HIV and drug tests based on the ROK's commitments under the ICCPR and the ICERD, neither Judge Kim nor any other judge took note of them.

Such a result, unfortunately, is to be expected. As In-seop Chung, a leading scholar in Korean constitutional law, explained in "An Analysis of the Korean Constitutional Court's Jurisprudence from an International Law Perspective": "the Korean Constitutional Court has generally been reluctant to invoke or employ international law in general and international human rights law in particular as an adjudicatory norm or standard."

Rejected by both the Constitutional Court and NHRCK, after substantial delays in both cases, foreign teachers have watched the discriminatory requirements become further institutionalized. The one-time HIV and drug test requirements rushed into place during a moral panic by the MOJ on the authority of a policy memo have become repeat annual requirements for native speaker employees of regional educational office around the country.

Foreman — the married, law-abiding, disease-free and certified teacher — isn't happy with the tests.

"It's inconvenient. It's painful. Not only do I have to have my blood taken every year and have the results given to my school, but I also have to pee into a cup for other STDs and have those results given to my school, too.

"It's degrading to be tested over and over again," he says. "And I resent having to do it when Koreans who come to my country don't have to do it. My Korean co-teachers don't have to do it. Only E-2 (visa holders) have to do it. It's absurd. I'm married to a Canadian so I don't have an F-2 visa, but (even if I did) what's the difference?

"I'm not Korean and my wife's not Korean, and that's why they're taking my blood. Stop taking my blood." **GROOVE**

A version of this article was previously published in the *Journal of Korean Law*, Vol. 11, No. 2 (June 2012), pp. 179-245. Reprinted and adapted with the permission of the *Journal of Korean Law*. The views expressed here do not necessarily represent those of the *Journal* or *Groove Korea*. —Ed.



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greater moment,
When
everybody
smiles



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KOREA'S TEMPLES

ADD THESE 7 MONASTERIES TO YOUR MUST-SEE LIST

BY EMI HAILEY HAYAKAWA

Visit the seven monasteries that Korea is seeking to be declared UNESCO World Heritage Sites before the masses arrive. They represent some of the most important Buddhist sites in the country, boast a history of over 1,000 years and house important historical and cultural assets.

Here's the scoop on the monasteries and how to get there.



BEOPJUSA

법주사

Beopjusa is over 1,500 years old and is located on top of Mt. Songnisan in North Chungcheong Province. It holds National Treasure no. 55, the Palsangjeon Hall of Beopjusa, 15 other national treasures and 300 Buddhist cultural assets. Adjacent to the temple are various dwellings and cliffs, which makes this temple both historically and naturally important.



Getting there:

To get to Beopjusa from Seoul, take the intercity bus to Boeun Intercity Terminal, and then take a direct bus to Mt. Songnisan. After getting off at Songnisan Intercity Bus Terminal, walk 20 minutes to arrive at Mt. Songnisan Ticket Box and Beopjusa.



More info

<http://beopjusa.org>

TONGDOSA

통도사

Tongdosa is on Mt. Chiseosan in South Gyeongsang Province. It is otherwise known as the Buddhist Jewel Temple. Within this 1,300-year-old temple lies Daeungjeon Hall, which is recognized as National Treasure no. 290. Tongdosa is also known for the "Eight Famous Scenes of Tongdosa," which consists of 700-year-old pine trees, waterfalls, a pond with rocks, an amazing sunset, and a bell and drum.



Getting there:

From Seoul, take the intercity bus to Sinpeyong (Tongdosa, 통도사). This direct bus runs five times a day.



More info

www.tongdosa.or.kr



BONGJEONGSA

봉정사

Bongjeongsa is located in Andong, North Gyeongsang Province, and is the largest Buddhist temple there. Bongjeongsa has an ancient wood building, Geungnakjeon Hall, which has been recognized as National Treasure no. 15. Another hall, Daeungjeon Hall, is recognized as National Treasure no. 55. There are other important architectural treasures there as well. They also have an important rock carving of the Maitreya, which is said to be the most important Buddhist rock carving in Korea.



Getting there:

To travel to Bongjeongsa, take an intercity bus to Andong Intercity Bus Terminal. From there, take bus no. 51 to Bongjeongsa Temple.



More info

www.bongjeongsa.org



SEONAMSA

선암사

Seonamsa is located on Mt. Jogyesan in South Jeolla Province. Seonamsa is home to a rainbow-shaped bridge called the Seungseon Bridge (National Treasure no. 400). There are 15 other cultural assets and national treasures such as a 17-meter-tall Buddha rock carving. At Seonamsa the structures harmonize with nature.



Getting there:

From Busan, take Busan Metro line 1 to Seomyeon Station (서면역) or Busan Metro line 2 to Buam Station (부암역). From Seomyeon Station or Buam Station, take the Seonamsa Temple bound city bus 17 or 17-1 to the last station in front of the temple. It's a 40-50 minute bus ride and a 20-minute walk from the bus stop to the temple.



More info

www.seonamsa.net



BUSEOKSA

부석사

Buseoksa is located in North Gyeongsang Province, and is said to have the most beautiful wooden structure in Korea, the Muryangsujeon Hall of Buseoksa (National Treasure no. 18). Inside you will find National Treasure no. 45, a seated clay Buddha statue. Additionally, a colorful and elegant wall painting that hangs here is National Treasure no. 46, and the magnificent architecture of Josadang Hall is a National Treasure. Buseoksa is over 1,400 years old and boasts other treasures and cultural assets.



Getting there:

From Seoul, take the intercity bus to Yeongju Intercity Bus Terminal (영주터미널). From there, cross the street to Yeongju Banjum Bus stop (영주반점앞 버스정류장), and take bus 27 or 55 to Buseoksa temple.



More info

www.pusoksa.org



MAGOKSA

마곡사

Magoksa was founded in 640 and is located in South Chungcheong Province. The Taegukcheon flows next to the temple in the shape of a tajitu. This monastery holds various Buddhist cultural assets such as Daeungbo Hall (National Treasure no. 801). There is a pagoda in the Tibetan style, one of only three such structures left in the world.



Getting there:

From Seoul, take the intercity bus to Gongju Bus Terminal (공주터미널). From there, take bus 610 or 611 to the Magoksa Temple Parking Lot (마곡사주차장) bus stop. Then follow Magok Stream for 800 meters to arrive at Magokasa Temple.



More info

www.magoksa.or.kr



DAEHEUNGSA

대흥사

Daeheungsa is located on Mt. Duryun in South Jeolla Province. This monastery is said to be from the Three Kingdoms period and is over 1,500 years old. The monastery is known as the historical center of Korean tea culture, and is the site where the warrior monk Seosan Daesa trained a guerilla monk army to defend the Korean people during the Imjin War of 1592. **GROOVE**



Getting there:

From there, take the Daeheungsa temple bound city bus (25-minute ride) to the temple office.



More info

www.daeheungsa.com

SUNCHEON SHINES WITH ITS WETLANDS & PARKS

Garden expo runs on April 20 to Oct. 20

Story and Photos by Simon Bond

Contribute or comment:
joshforeman@groovekorea.com

Looking for a break from the city? You could do a lot worse than a weekend in Suncheon. And there's no better time to enjoy the slow pace of life there than during the 2013 Garden Expo. Why does Suncheon host the Garden Expo? Well, those familiar with the area will know Suncheon Bay is home to one of the world's foremost wetlands. Now the city boasts a nearby park as well.







SUNCHEON EXPO SITE

When I left Suncheon, South Jeolla Province, just over a year ago, the area where the expo is located wasn't even a building site yet, though pockets of the expo proposal had been built. On a recent visit to the site I could see a lot still needed to be finished, but it was already looking impressive. The site straddles the river that flows through Suncheon and is linked by the Dream Bridge, which rather resembles a giant Rubik's Cube with hangeul (the Korean alphabet) written on it. In keeping with the environmental theme, this bridge is made from old shipping containers. On either side of the river are landscaped gardens featuring modern and traditional Korean architecture. There are also gardens with a more international flavor, with Holland being represented by a windmill, and the landscaping being designed by a British man. If you need a quick connection to the bay, a new, more environmentally friendly monorail is available that links the expo site to the Bay, which is 4.6 kilometers away. The monorail is in keeping with one of the expo's main aims, which is to showcase clean electric transport. **GROOVE**

WHAT'S WITHOUT QUESTION
THOUGH IS THE GRACE WITH
WHICH THE SWEEPING ESTUARY
CUTS THROUGH THE LAND AND
HEADS OUT TO SEA, WITH THE
CIRCULAR REED BEDS MAKING A
NICE JUXTAPOSITION.

SUNCHEON'S OTHER ESCAPES

Hike – Take a walk from Songgwangsa to Seonamsa through Jogyesan National Park. The hike usually takes around four hours to complete.

Village life – Spend the day looking around Naganupseong Folk Village, Korea's largest folk village, and its fortress wall. You can stay overnight at one of the many homestays available within the village.

The city tour – Arrive by 9:30 a.m. at the information center near the train station. The tour will take you to the folk village, a film set, Songgwangsa and Suncheon Bay, all in one day.





EATING

Lake Park (Holseu gongwon)– This is a new development in Suncheon and has lots of restaurants with many choices for things to eat. Take bus no. 59 from the train or bus station and get off at Lake Park.

Blank – Offers a selection of Western-style foods, mainly pasta or sandwiches.

Suncheonman Tteurak – Experience duck meat BBQ, one of the best tastes of Suncheon (Deokwol-dong 10-2).



SLEEPING

Ecograd – If you have the budget this is the luxury accommodation option in Suncheon. It offers great views over Suncheon from its restaurant. Go to Yeongyang-dong – it's the tallest building in town.

Railroad guesthouse – They have dorm rooms for 12,000 won per person. Come out of the train station and turn left. It's the second building on the left. E-mail ksy76600@naver.com

Motels – There are too many to list, but they're easy to find near the bus or train station. The Bali Motel near the train station is one such option – E-mail bali7412200@naver.com.



GETTING THERE

Bus – Go to the Gangnam Express Bus Terminal and take the Honam Line to Suncheon. The bus takes four hours and costs 27,400 won.

Train – KTX now operates a service to Suncheon from Yongsan Station. It takes three hours and costs 38,900 won.

DATES

The expo opens on April 20 and closes on Oct. 20.





WALK IT

If you find yourself in Kathmandu, a walking tour is the
No. 1 thing you need to do.

OLD KATHMANDU: A WALKING TOUR FROM THAMEL TO DURBAR SQUARE

STORY BY **ELIZABETH GROESCHEN**

PHOTOS BY **STUART SIMPSON**

Contribute or comment:

joshforeman@groovekorea.com

We were lost. We were only 10 minutes out the door of our guesthouse. We were even told where to go, or so we thought ... Yet, we were lost. Fortunately, I had absolutely no problem with it. I was in heaven. I was in Old Kathmandu.

After stopping for directions a few times, we retraced our steps through the backpacker district of Thamel and found Thahiti Tole, a stupa

built in the 15th century. Legends differ; the stupa was built to keep either snakes or thieves away. It was busy. "Taxi? Guide? Smoking?" We were asked as we walked around the stupa. We declined all three and resumed the walking tour Lonely Planet insisted we follow. Walking tours, or anything the "Blue Bible" as some travelers insist on calling it, are a toss up. However, they nailed it with this walking tour.

"WE WERE TWO MORE PEOPLE WALKING THROUGH OLD KATHMANDU, BUYING POPCORN FROM A STREET VENDOR, ASKING PRICES FOR YAK WOOL BLANKETS AND SCARVES, BLOWING ON HOT MILK TEA SERVED IN STEAMING GLASSES."



We walked through courtyards holding more ancient stupas, some with fluttering Buddhist prayer flags strung above. We passed a string of dentist shops that would make anyone used to modern medicine cringe. We arrived at the Sikha Narayan Temple. I became completely enamored not by the tenth century Vishnu figure displayed behind the temple bars, but by the city life surrounding the square. Rickshaw drivers napped on the edge of the temple platform. Men sold flowers, women sold vegetables, and everyone had a newspaper to read when not tending to a customer.

We followed the narrow streets away from the square, past small mountains of bright tikka powders for sale toward Asan Tole.

Tea vendors operated out of shops lining the edge of the intersection. Motorbikes parked in the middle next to a shrine that men sat around, watching traffic flow in every direction around them. Women sold flower garlands in front of the Annapurna Temple at one end. Vegetables lay in front of vendors on what appeared to be the street for cars and motorbikes at the other end. Eventually, we followed the diagonal street that used to be the main commercial street in Kathmandu. Times haven't changed. Business was booming, from everyday kitchenware to souvenir Ganesh marionettes.

Surviving the commercial gauntlet, we ducked into another courtyard to see the Seto Machhendranath Temple, also known as Jan Bahal. Attracting both Buddhists and Hindus, this was the busiest courtyard and temple so far on the tour. A group of Hindu women in matching red saris arrived when we did. They bought grain and scattered it for the pigeons in the courtyard (for karma), circled the temple, and then sat in a line before the temple, each receiving blessings.

We walked on, weaving through narrower streets, rarely bumping into other travelers along the way. We didn't feel like we were tourists. We didn't feel like we were intruding. We were two more people walking through Old Kathman-

du, buying popcorn from a street vendor, asking prices for yak wool blankets and scarves, blowing on hot milk tea served in steaming glasses. We sat in another courtyard. We snacked on street food. We passed the junction of the Nara Devi Temple. More interesting, though, were the uniforms hanging outside of the offices where bands were booked for weddings and other celebrations. Opposite the band uniforms and dance platform, I watched a man make snacks for Nepalese festival celebrations.

After another stupa, we arrived at Durbar Square. There are three of these Durbar Squares, and all of them are UNESCO World Heritage Sites. This one, Kathmandu Durbar Square, is basically a square that was built in front of the royal palace of the old Kathmandu Kingdom.

The square is full of temples showing off Newa (native Nepalese people) artisanship. Temples range in height and glory, yet they were all full of people sitting on their steps watching life in Kathmandu pass by. Nepalese teenagers played with their mobile phones. Tourists played with their cameras. Fruit vendors rearranged oranges below. It was busy, yet calm. We were tourists, but we felt like travelers. There wasn't a Starbucks, McDonald's, or KFC in sight. Old Kathmandu, for the most part, is still largely untouched by Western corporations. It's glorious. Go. Get lost. Ask for directions (without using your smartphone) and walk through the old city. Kathmandu won't feel so old once a shiny new Starbucks sits next to the Square. **GROOVE**



GET LOST

Ask for directions (without using your smartphone) and walk through the old city.



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THE MAKING OF 'AMISS'

Cast and crew take Groove Korea inside indie filmmaking in Seoul

STORY BY **DEREK SCARLINO**
PHOTOS **COURTESY OF 'AMISS'**

Contribute or comment:
elaine@groovekorea.com



"HAVING A FILM COMMUNITY AS TIGHT-KNIT AND PROFICIENT AS THE ONE IN SEOUL IS PRICELESS; IT'S ALL ABOUT THE BIG PICTURE AND HELPING EACH OTHER ACHIEVE THEIR VISIONS."

—HEATHER YZAGUIRRE, PRODUCER

On an early December morning during Seoul's first real cold spell of winter, a small team of filmmakers marked the end of two months of rewrites, fundraising, races against the setting sun, run-ins with local Korean authorities and locals, late nights, early mornings, and experiments in guerrilla filmmaking. This is not to leave out the ample mix of skill, determination and luck that were also indispensable to finishing the task. Now that principal photography has wrapped up on their upcoming feature film, the easy part is over.

At the helm of this project are co-directors Raoul Dyssell and William "Sonny" Sonbuchner, and producer Heather Yzaguirre — three independent filmmakers in Seoul's burgeoning expat film scene who have led their fellow indie crewmates straight into post-production to prepare for the film's mid-spring premiere.

Their project is called "Amiss," and tells the grim story of a young Korean woman in Seoul who takes her own life, prompting her powerful father to ruthlessly seek the truth behind the suicide. He adopts the role of a cold interrogator, pulling his daughter's acquaintances away from their everyday lives and into his dark inquisition to gain information from them.

It's a story of revenge, but also one that touches on a pressing social issue in Korea — namely, suicide. The weighty topic is tackled by co-directors Dyssell and Sonny who, both having lived here for some time, have observed what a strong impact suicide has made here in the past few years, particularly among young women.

The film isn't just the story of a girl who dies, but of the people left behind — the aftermath, and how her life's end resonates even through

the lives of the most distant of strangers.

And behind the scenes in making their first full-length collaboration, the crew's accomplishment has been rooted in support from the community, they tell Groove Korea.

"Having a film community as tight-knit and proficient as the one in Seoul is priceless; it's all about the big picture and helping each other achieve their visions," says producer Yzaguirre. "Ultimately, I think the goal is to make Seoul a competitive platform for filmmaking and a place where people look to for new visions."

MEANT TO BE

The story of Dyssell and Sonbuchner's partnership starts well before the making of "Amiss," at a series of filmmakers' workshops initially organized by Sonbuchner. Expats and Koreans come together in Seoul every month to foster each other's ideas and network with other local writers, directors and actors. As a result, the small, close-knit indie filmmaking community in Seoul has grown to become highly involved in each other's work: One person's project or idea can suddenly have an automatic support system to help that vision become reality.

So when Dyssell spawned the idea for making a feature film, he immediately brought on three other writers — Sonbuchner, along with Edward Burgos and Jo Young-hoon. All long involved in Seoul's indie film scene, each was asked to



DIVING DEEP

It's a story of revenge, but also one that touches on a pressing social issue in Korea — namely, suicide.

develop their own story following different characters in the aftermath of a central event: a young woman's suicide. In the end, Dyssell and Sonbuchner became the ones to spearhead the project, and thus, "Amiss" was born.

"I always wanted to be a filmmaker. I always wanted to tell stories — I knew that from about the age of 4," admits Dyssell, speaking with the conviction of a man in his early twenties. "Amiss" is his first feature-length project, having honed his skills working on independent short films in Seoul including "Falling" (2012) and "The Inside" (2012).

Less than charmed with the film industry in his native South Africa after studying film and media at the University of Cape Town, Dyssell decided to pursue his vision in South Korea, already home to a film scene he holds in high regard. Meanwhile, Sonbuchner, a long-time Korea expat hailing from the U.S., put his previously acquired skills together with his interests in filmmaking and videography to find his place in the local film scene, and is now constantly busy with projects as a full-time videographer.

PLAYING IT SAFE — AS NEEDED

With "Amiss" being the first feature the two have undertaken together, the challenges they faced in filmmaking were compounded by the fact that they were doing it so far from their native homes. Also far from familiar to them were the challenges of shooting in a foreign country without speaking the local language, or knowing the laws and nuances of working in public and private spaces here, which filmmaking often demands. So they decided to play it safe.

"Basically, in making this film, we did everything by the book,"



"IT'S NOT LIKE THE STATES WHERE YOU CAN JUST DROP A \$100 BILL AND SAY, 'HEY, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT.' IT DOESN'T WORK THAT WAY [IN KOREA] AT ALL."

— WILLIAM "SONNY" SONBUCHNER,
CO-DIRECTOR

Sonbuchner says about the pre-production process, from screening auditioning actors to procuring the right permits.

"Anytime we could get a permit, we did. It just made life a lot easier. We were shooting in the subway, and it was a situation where we could have probably gotten away with not having a permit, but to have to pack up when you've already set up your equipment and your crew is ready really sets you back."

Of course, to get the right shots at the right place and the right time, the crew never hesitated to undertake guerrilla filmmaking tactics. One such shot was at an "abandoned-looking" warehouse that was central to the story; it happened to be privately owned and have an on-duty security guard who took his job rather seriously.

"We had 12 or 13 people (at the warehouse) and tons of equipment, and this guy comes up to us and asks, 'What are you doing here? You can't be here, I'm going to call the cops in one hour.' But we knew that we needed the shot," Sonny recalls. "It's not like the States where you can just drop a \$100 bill and say, 'Hey, don't worry about it.' It doesn't work that way (in Korea) at all." But having Korean cast and crew members paid off in diffusing situations like these, when they needed to buy time to finish their scenes.

Other locations, such as at a university, had Dyszell flexing his own acting muscles, pretending to be a college professor from the West filming a documentary in order to swindle a few more hours of daytime filming.

In other instances, according to lead actor Daniel Kennedy and producer Yzaguirre, even the lack of official authority present did not matter when it came to the principle of ajeossi authority.

"We were filming at a friend's apartment, a typical Korean apartment, which is perfectly cozy for one person. But when you have a sound guy, two directors, two actors, a gaffer, and two makeup girls it gets a little beyond cozy," Yzaguirre says. "And throw in some Sunday morning ajeossis trying to ball out... Things can get a little tense."

"We were filming at 8 a.m. and I think the loudest noise we made was a door opening and closing, but it was enough for them. They kept coming around to complain, but they would change their complaint from it being too early to us being disrespectful," says Kennedy, a Missouri-born English teacher-turned-actor with a background in theater and stand-up.

"The whole experience was a cultural exploration in itself, and eventually we figured out that an impromptu gift of Bacchus D (hangover remedy in a bottle) goes a long way," Yzaguirre adds.

TEAMWORK

More than just a movie, "Amiss" represents the culminated efforts of many people from outside of Korea to create a bilingual film that puts emphasis on social issues. The film's

cast and crew consist of members from the United States, Canada, South Africa, Singapore, Mexico, Brazil and the U.K., working side by side with some considerable Korean talent as well. Choi Bo-kyoung, a college-aged producer who is as dedicated as she is talented, was essential to getting the ball rolling on the entire project. The production was also able to land established Korean actors such as Lee Seol-gu — of "The Sword with No Name" (2009), "I Saw the Devil" (2010) and "Detective K" (2011) — who assumes the role of Professor Han.

Following their "by the book" philosophy, Dyszell and Sonbuchner had all actors audition for their roles. And while casting from a crop of foreigners (most of whom ended up in Korea via avenues other than acting) may not seem promising, both directors say they could not be more pleased with the talent available in and around Seoul.

Allan Choi, a Korean-American actor from Los Angeles who teaches in Seoul, says the talent is in some ways even better than in his hometown.

"Being from L.A., I was really surprised at the talent level out here among foreigners," says Choi, who plays the lead antagonist. "Comparing the pool out here to some of the contacts back home who work in Hollywood, it's probably a little deeper here in some respects."

Beyond the support of fellow filmmakers, the "Amiss" crew found the local community backing them when they initially launched a crowdfunding page to raise money for production costs.

"We made a Kickstarter ad to help and I was thinking, 'Gee, I hope my mom donates like \$10 or something,' but we were pleasantly surprised by the results," says Sonbuchner.

Despite raising \$4,000 on Kickstarter, those involved will likely not see a single won in return after expenses. Thus, the "labor of love" mentality has had to be invoked on this project — a testament to both the vision and dedication of all those involved.

While the process hasn't always been smooth, it hasn't been spirit-crushing either. And so continues a developing trend in local indie cinema: expatriates taking on the sometimes daunting task of filmmaking in a foreign country, not only contributing to the blossoming local film industry, but also bringing a fresh perspective to social issues.

Many would ask why a crew would dedicate such a significant amount of time and effort to a project with no guaranteed prospect of return. The answer, the "Amiss" filmmakers say, is that they believe the film has a message for Korean society, that it should be out there for people to see and, once it is, it will resonate.

"You must always remember that you will achieve what you want to achieve, to the degree to which you believe it will be done," says Dyszell. **GROOVE**



MORE INFO

There is no set release date as of press time, though there will be a private viewing in June as well as ticket and merchandise giveaways throughout May. For more information, find "Amiss" on Facebook. Groove Korea is a media sponsor of "Amiss."



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ARTIST'S JOURNEY

Interview with Jessica Adel,
Seoul Shakespeare Company actress and director

Interview by Wilfred Lee

"Hamlet" photos by Stuart Simpson

Photos of Jessica Adel courtesy of Corey Malcolm Lajeunesse

A talented musician, actress and director, the prolific and exuberant Jessica Adel is a fixture in the Seoul arts scene. In recent months, she has been devoting herself to directing Seoul Shakespeare Company's upcoming production of "Hamlet," but she recently made time in her busy schedule to talk with Artist's Journey's Wilfred Lee about her relationship with the Bard.



Groove Korea: How are you approaching your role as director in "Hamlet"?

Jessica Adel: Because I come from an acting background — actually, "Hamlet" is only the second full-length script I've ever directed — it makes it easy for me to communicate with my actors because we speak the same language.

Because I've been on their side of things for such a long time, I find the transition for me into directing has been pretty natural. I think about the things that really helped me as an actor, like the way that a director would talk to me, or help lead me, and it's just so interesting watching what the actors respond to.

Every actor is different. Some actors really love to be pushed out of their comfort zones, so they want a director who is very demanding. Then there are actors who are very sensitive, and if you take that route with them, they just shut down. So the process is about understanding how to let their best work shine.

What do you think it takes to be a good actor?

Every type of artist has their toolkit. A visual artist has their ability to understand color, and line, and shape, and to see things differently than the average person does. I think an actor's gift is that they are able to understand the basics of how people work — why people do the things that they do; what do we do when we get what we want, or don't get what we want. An actor's job is basically to be constantly manipulating their own self to give a desired reaction for a part. It isn't always pretty.

How do you achieve that desired reaction? That seems very difficult.

It's really about understanding the goals of your character, looking at a scene and saying, "Okay, this person wants something." Just like in real life, we are want-driven creatures. Everything we do is because we want something. I get up in the morning and go to the fridge because I want to eat something. I treat someone a certain way because I want this from them, or that from them.

A lot of the time in life, they're not conscious decisions. We go about the things that we do, not

even really aware of how much our desires are driving our choices. But as an actor, you have to look at a script and understand your character, every moment — what do they want, why are they doing what they're doing — and then what happens emotionally should happen naturally as a byproduct of whether your character is getting what they want or not.

What projects do you have lined up after "Hamlet"?

I have something I really want to make, my artistic goal before I leave Korea, which is that I want to work in collaboration with a Korean theater company. I've been in contact with (one company) and some of my Korean friends who are performers there, talking about doing a joint production.

My idea is I really want to do "Romeo and Juliet" in two languages. We'd split the languages between the two houses: Romeo's family speaks Korean, and Juliet's family speaks (English). When the two lovers are together, they try to speak each other's languages. It would be okay if it was a bit broken, and didn't quite make sense, because these two characters would be trying their best to try and communicate. **GROOVE**

"EVERY ACTOR IS DIFFERENT. SOME ACTORS REALLY LOVE TO BE PUSHED OUT OF THEIR COMFORT ZONES, SO THEY WANT A DIRECTOR WHO IS VERY DEMANDING. THEN THERE ARE ACTORS WHO ARE VERY SENSITIVE, AND IF YOU TAKE THAT ROUTE WITH THEM, THEY JUST SHUT DOWN. SO THE PROCESS IS ABOUT UNDERSTANDING HOW TO LET THEIR BEST WORK SHINE."



MORE INFO

"Hamlet" will be performed at the Kim Dong-soo Playhouse in Hyeohwa on April 13, 20 and 27 at 7:00 p.m. and April 14, 21, and 28 at 4:00 p.m. Tickets are 20,000 won.

For more information, email ticketing@seoulshakespeare.com or visit Seoul Shakespeare Company on Facebook.

ABOUT THIS COLUMN

Interviews for this column are by Wilfred Lee, and transcribed and written by Alison Hjelseth. Artist's Journey brings you daily doses of inspiration, including weekly podcasts featuring artists from around the globe. Learn more at facebook.com/myartistsjourney or www.artistsjourney.org.

AT THE BOX OFFICE

THE BIG SCREEN

By Dean Crawford

Oblivion

Directed by Joseph Kosinski



April
11 Sci-fi/Action

P R E V I E W

There have been mixed reactions to Tom Cruise movies in recent years. "Knight and Day" (2010), which he produced, was a failure both critically and commercially, and his most recent release "Jack Reacher" (2012) crawled over the \$200 million mark, \$50 million short of its anticipated return.

But whenever a Tom Cruise movie doesn't fare so well, he always has the "Mission: Impossible" series to fall back on, with "M:I-3" (2006) earning close to \$400 million worldwide and "Mission: Impossible – Ghost Protocol" (2011) recently becoming Cruise's highest-grossing film to date. I actually enjoyed "Jack Reacher," but my favorite Tom Cruise film by far is 2002's "Minority Report." So it's with great excitement that I see Cruise is returning to the sci-fi genre with "Oblivion."

Tom Cruise plays Jack Harper, a drone repairman who is working on Earth 60 years after it was destroyed by an alien invasion. Humans have been evacuated and people now live in "sky towers." One day, Harper discovers not only a woman in a crashed spacecraft, but also a group of survivors led by Morgan Freeman (who is looking distinctly like Morpheus from "The Matrix"), which the movie's website tells us "triggers a chain of events that forces him to question everything that he

knows."

The first question that needs to be asked is, "Is the movie-viewing public tired of Tom Cruise?" Well, a Tom Cruise that isn't in a "Mission: Impossible" film anyway. With a huge back catalogue of material, "Jack Reacher" was intended to be a huge franchise on par with the "Mission: Impossible" series, as was "Knight and Day," but it just seems that the domestic audience isn't fully into Tom Cruise characters except for Ethan Hunt. The trailer looks interesting enough and the film has been referred to as "ambitious, cerebral science fiction" and has been compared to "2001: A Space Odyssey" (1968) and "Solaris" (2002).

Speaking of the trailer, considering how closely guarded the plot had been, it was a bit of a surprise to see how transparent it felt. The trailer sets up a dystopian world, almost like the human version of "WALL-E" (2008), but then Morgan Freeman's character comes along and explains how everything might not be what it seems.

I think this was a mistake, as it seems a little too obvious that the film is setting up an "Ooh, look Tom, take that wool from your eyes!" moment just like "The Matrix" (1999) or "The Island" (2005). I hope I'm wrong, and I'll find out this month.

Iron Man 3

Directed by Shane Black



April
25 Sci-fi/Action
109 minutes

P R E V I E W

Six years of meticulous planning and production finally came to a head last year with the release of Marvel's "The Avengers." It was a calculated strategy to introduce a world of superheroes through their own stand-alone films, but each was connected and contained several crossovers.

This strategy has been universally praised by fans and critics alike, and the film that kicked it all off was "Iron Man" in 2008. With Marvel's first phase complete, it's time to move on to a post-Avengers world and begin phase two, which starts with "Iron Man 3."

Set after the events of "The Avengers," the film takes elements of the "Extremis" story line by Warren Ellis, the "Sentient Armor" story arc by Joe Quesada and the birth of the recurring villain The Mandarin.

In the film, The Mandarin destroys everything Tony Stark owns and loves. As he faces his toughest test yet, Marvel.com tells us that Stark is forced to ask himself, "Does the man make the suit, or does the suit make the man?"

There is much to admire about what Marvel did with their properties, and DC Comics could learn a thing or two in their disastrous quest to bring the Justice League to the big screen.

However, as much as I love a superhero film, at the

rate studios are churning them out, I am no longer excited about their release. They are no longer big events and we kind of know what to expect from these films. I'm not saying "Iron Man 3" will be bad, I'm just not excited by it. "Iron Man" was a breath of fresh air. "Iron Man 2," not so much, as it was too focused on Easter eggs for The Avengers.

So it seems as if "Iron Man 3" could go either way. Could a change in the director's chair have a positive or negative influence? It would seem on the surface that Black, the screenwriter of "Lethal Weapon" (1987) and the director of "Kiss Kiss Bang Bang" (2005), is an odd choice for one of the most lucrative franchisees in recent years. But not if you're the film's star, Robert Downey, Jr. He told the LA Times that "bringing in Shane Black to write and direct the film is basically the only thing that (Jon) Favreau and the audience and Marvel and I could ever actually sign off on."

He obviously had an extremely positive experience working with Black on "Kiss Kiss" and with the story set to focus on Iron Man and Rhodey, maybe Shane Black is the perfect choice for this unexpected buddy movie. I loved "The Avengers," so I hope Marvel's phase two kicks off with a bang.

KOREAN DVD CORNER

THE SMALL SCREEN

By Dean Crawford

Ghost Sweepers 점쟁이들

Directed by Shin Jeong-won



Rated
15 Comedy/Horror
119 minutes

R E V I E W

The majority of Korean films I have seen recently have all started out with interesting premises and gave the impression that they would be thought-provoking dramas, only for the film to turn into some kind of farce. It's not that I mind slapstick humor; I just I wish I could watch a film that knew what it wanted to be and had some focus.

For example, recently I couldn't work out if one particular film I was watching was supposed to be a serious drama about domestic abuse or a slapstick comedy. So what a relief it was to see "Ghost Sweepers," a film about the best exorcists in Korea who head to the tiny village of Uljinri to try and expel a ghost causing havoc to the majority of its villagers.

The exorcists are joined by Chan-young, a young newspaper journalist who is recruited to report on the story.

After the initial ceremony involving many of the exorcists goes horribly wrong, only five remain: Mr. Park, who is the most famous and something of a celebrity; Monk Shim-in, who studied with Mr. Park but whose fortunes have differed greatly; relative newcomer Suk-hyun, who uses technology to help him ghost hunt; a young boy named Wol-kwang from Jeonju, who can see into the future; and Seung-hee, who can see the

memories of any item she touches. Chan-young and the surviving exorcists work together to uncover the dark secrets of the island.

At one point I half expected one of the fortunetellers to rip a mask off the monster's face as a human inside proclaimed, "I would have gotten away with it if it weren't for you pesky kids!" Needless to say, the threat is real, which I rather enjoyed, and the film leads to a final battle between our remaining exorcists and the ghoulish specter inhabiting the village.

Surprisingly enough, "Ghost Sweepers" is a pretty enjoyable film. The film plays like a cross between "The Exorcist" (1973) and "Ghostbusters" (1984). As you might expect, the film focuses more on humor than it does the scares, but that's fine, as it never tries to be anything other than an entertaining film. So often a film starts out as a horror movie only to descend into farce. The film sets its intentions out early and sticks to them, successfully.

"Ghost Sweepers" might not set the world alight, but it's enjoyable enough and a solid recommendation for Korean film enthusiasts looking for an interesting addition to the horror genre.

Paradise Murdered 극락도 살인사건

Directed by Kim Han-min



Rated
15 Horror/Thriller/Comedy
112 minutes

R E V I E W

Having been seriously surprised by "Ghost Sweepers," it seemed like timing was on my side with the recent special edition release of Kim Han-min's "Paradise Murdered," a horror thriller from the director of the excellent action film "War of the Arrows" (2011). That film had moments of epic action and some impressive acting from its cast, so I was interested in seeing what the director's first film would be like.

The film opens with two police officers investigating a spate of murders on Paradise Island. Paradise Island refers to an idyllic village off the mainland inhabited by 18 people. It's a perfect village, with spectacular views, a generous mayor, no illness and where harmony reigns.

This harmony is shattered, however, when a series of murders takes place, causing paranoia and discontent through the village.

The high tides make it impossible for anyone to leave the island and their only form of radio communication has been obliterated. This causes further unrest, as it becomes apparent that the murderer must be living on the island.

When a note is found that proclaims, "It shouldn't have been brought on the island," it confuses matters further, as it is believed the note is referring to the temple that was built to scare off the ancient spirit of

the fisherman's daughter that haunts the island. This is when ghostly apparitions appear over the island. With each new apparition, or each new theory as to who the killer is, a new murder or new tragic "accident" takes place until only two people remain and the mystery of the murders on the island is finally revealed.

Stylistically, the film is split into three. The opening plays like a hard-boiled thriller with two detectives investigating a gruesome murder, then, as you might expect, the film plays up its more slapstick elements, highlighted beautifully in the first five minutes by the four fishermen's reaction to finding a severed head! Then the final third of the film turns into a straight up horror flick, complete with a scary girl with black hair and white face.

Regular readers of this column, i.e., my mum and my dad, will know that my one major peeve is a film that feels it needs to play the comedy card, which takes away any kind of tension. However, as in "War of the Arrows," the pacing of the film is one of its strengths. The final third is extremely enjoyable, as the atmosphere and tension builds to an exciting, albeit drawn out, conclusion.

PINNACLE THEHUSTLER

Hip-hop trailblazer leaves
while he's on top

STORY BY **TOM GODFREY**
PHOTOS BY **JAMES LITTLE**

Contribute or comment:
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"RESUME. THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO ME. I WANT TO INVEST IN MYSELF, TO CREATE MY OWN COMPANY – WHICH IS WHAT I DID."

— PINNACLE THEHUSTLER





"I REMEMBER NOT HAVING ANY MONEY. SOMETIMES TAXIS TAKE ONE LOOK AT ME AND KEEP DRIVING. PEOPLE TALK ABOUT ME IN KOREAN ON THE SUBWAY AND ASSUME THAT I CAN'T UNDERSTAND THEM. EVERYONE EXPERIENCES THESE THINGS."

— PINNACLE THEHUSTLER

"There's a difference between making music that's ignorant and making ignorant music with sustenance," says the man kneading cheese into dalk galbi at Yoogane restaurant in Gangnam. He smiles wide and he laughs hard. He has a lot to be happy about.

He is Jason Waller — aka Pinnacle TheHustler — and he's one of the most significant acts in the Korean hip-hop scene.

"There's a lot of fun hip-hop out there that you can dance to," added the 28-year-old. "But as far as concept — nothing."

"Hustler started out as a joke," he says, his grin projecting an excitement that's hard to miss. It could be because of the food. It could be that this is his first break in a while, what with the music video he just finished shooting and a mixtape about to drop. It could also be because he comes across as a genuinely happy and friendly guy.

"In school I was involved with so many things. My friends said, 'You're like a hustler.' Then when I told everyone I was going to Korea they were like, 'What? Are you trying to take over the world?'"

Pinnacle is no joke.

He grew up in the Cincinnati area. He was diligent then and likely could have achieved anything he put his mind to, but rapping was in his blood.

"The biggest influences were my uncle and cousin," he says. "They were always rapping. They would always invite me into the booth."

It was adolescent cruelty that pushed the young man onto a journey that would take 'Jason from Ohio' and spit out Pinnacle TheHustler.

"I was always writing (lyrics)," he says about his high school days. "Somebody found my notebook and was reading it at the table. He was blasting me. It really hurt my feelings."

Later, either coincidence or fate granted Pinnacle, via a talent show, the chance to prove himself to his tormentors and himself. He signed up.

"Before I stepped onstage I was scared to death," he admits. "I almost dropped the mic and left. I felt sick. Then, the curtains opened and all I saw were two big lights. The beat started and I heard this voice. It was me! It had been like second nature. I didn't even realize I was doing it. I had them going. They had their hands in the air."

Redemption came while Pinnacle waited for his father to pick him up. A car pulled up and a window rolled down. Inside was the boy who had made fun of him. "He said, 'What you did in the auditorium: that shit was dope,'" Pinnacle says. He grins from ear to ear. "That was better than the show."

While in Korea for the better part of four years, Pinnacle has accomplished a lot.

"He is the most driven and ambitious person I have ever met," says Anna Kemper, PR manager of Planet Hustle, Pinnacle's company. "He never sleeps. When he is awake, he is working."

This is the common tone with all of his collaborators.

"Pinnacle is extremely diligent," says MC Meta. "He has a great personality."

As one half of Korean hip-hop royalty and Korean Music Award-winning duo Garion, MC Meta collaborated with fellow legend Vasco on a track for Pinnacle's mixtape "Late Nights, Early Mornings."

"Foreigners living in South Korea and releasing an album is quite meaningful," says MC Meta. "It was impossible in the past."

"It is hard," agrees Vasco. "All music is language-centered, especially rap. If Pinnacle raps in English, then it is hard to get into the Korean hip-hop scene."

This isn't the first wall surmounted by Pinnacle.

After proving himself on TBS' "Drive Time's Got Talent" competition, Pinnacle was offered a weekly radio show on the local, English-language radio station.

"It was just a half hour a week," Pinnacle remembers, "but we worked it hard."

He worked it hard enough to land a weekend show, which led to his daily show, "Night Vibe" on TBS. Along the way he became the first black man on Korean radio.

"We broke some barriers," he says. "Go us! But damn, so late."

Over the years, Pinnacle has turned adversity into inspiration and profit.

"I was homeless when I first came here," he says, alluding to his time in the teaching game. "I remember not having any money. Sometimes taxis take one look at me and keep driving. People talk about me in Korean on the subway and assume that I can't understand them. Everyone experiences these things," he smiles.

"His music represents the lives of not just him," says Kemper, "but of most of us living in Korea."

He didn't do it alone. Along with Kemper, he is supported by a dedicated group at Planet Hustle.

"Planet Hustle started in Cincinnati," Kemper says, "but Pinnacle didn't have time to sit down and think of a business plan. Development didn't really start until I came aboard."

Planet Hustle offers products and services to independent artists of all nationalities.

Then there's Ready for Deportation, Pinnacle's backing band.

"Those guys!" Pinnacle chuckles, "They're ridiculous."

Kemper echoes this point.

"Nothing is off limits," she warns. "Whether it's practice, mic checks — they tone it down for the shows, but still — you always know that something is going to happen to make a memory. They are literally ready for deportation at any moment."

Pinnacle is thriving in a world that isn't open to everyone. He admits to having his fair share of negative experiences in Korea, but at the same time acknowledges the ups that the country has to offer. DJing in Hongdae is an example of one of these perks:

"The demographic at Club Naked is very broad," he begins. "You've got (conservative) Korean girls, black

military guys, white guys, Korean guys open to foreign culture. There were people from deep urban environments (in the U.S.) versus sheltered Korean girls. How can you make a song to relate to everyone?"

Enter trap rap. Combining the deep bass of rap with the high treble of pop, Pinnacle is able to create music that brings two different dynamics and groups together.

"The crowd loved it," he smiles.

His presence on stage is a sight to see. His lyrics are smart while still maintaining a fun edge. He plays off the crowd and draws in its energy. And all of this comes at you in Pinnacle's signature machine gun pace.

"He's one of those performers who, if you see him on stage, that's the essence of who he is," says Kemper. "He gets lost in it."

With the pending release of his collaborative mix-tape "Late Nights, Early Mornings" alongside a polished music video to his single "Work to Do" (his previous success on 2011's "K.O.R.E.A. the Album"); the man is well on his way to earning his name.

So, what now?

"I can either be complacent," he says, "or do it somewhere else."

"'LNEM' is the first project that we've worked on together that I feel could really transition to the States," says Kemper. "He's ready to take new challenges."

"I've assimilated as much as I can as a black MC in Korea," Pinnacle says. "I love Korea, but what am I working (towards)? It's time for bigger things. So, it might be time to go back home." See this man perform in Korea before it's too late. **GROOVE**



"I'VE ASSIMILATED AS MUCH AS I CAN AS A BLACK MC IN KOREA. I LOVE KOREA, BUT WHAT AM I WORKING [TOWARDS]? IT'S TIME FOR BIGGER THINGS. SO, IT MIGHT BE TIME TO GO BACK HOME."

— PINNACLE THEHUSTLER



WHAT'S IN A NAME?

"I saw 'pinnacle' on the page of a vocab book (in eighth or ninth grade)," says Pinnacle TheHustler. "The word really resonated with me. I believe that no matter what endeavor you're in, you always have to strive for the pinnacle. It also reminds me to stay humble. There is always someone striving to knock you down and always somebody better than you."

DOWNLOAD

"Late Nights, Early Mornings" will be available for free download at planethustle.com. Date TBD

MORE INFO

Keep up with Pinnacle at: planethustle.com, [facebook.com/iampinnacle](https://www.facebook.com/iampinnacle), twitter.com/iampinnacle



MAGNA FALL

Teachers by day — rockers by night

Interview by Sophie Boladeras
Photos courtesy of the band

Contribute or comment:
mattlamers@groovekorea.com

It's like if Led Zeppelin and Rush had a sex party with Queens of the Stone Age, Soundgarden and Radiohead, the orgiastic product might be Magna Fall — kind of.

The progressive rock band is an arresting vision on stage, belting out their spacey, bluesy, grungy sounds.

After a few years of hard work they are now orbiting South Korea's rock scene at high velocity. Magna Fall has been steadily gaining recognition both in Korea and overseas.

David Holden, Neil Smith, Kevin Heintz and Kim Tae-il are the talents. They've played at the 2011 Boryeong Mud Festival and Japan Music Week in Tokyo. In 2012 Magna Fall was featured on the KBS 2 television show "Top Band," which garnered them a plethora of exposure, a solid fan base and a record deal with Blossomland.

Groove Korea sat down with Magna Fall to talk about how they got their start and their hopes for the future.



WHO IS MAGNA FALL?

David Holden (28) Drums **Ireland**
Neil Smith (28) Bass guitar, keyboard, vocals **Ireland**
Kevin Heintz (29) Guitar, main vocals **United States**
Kim Tae-il (33) Guitar **Korea**

Groove Korea: So how did the name Magna Fall come about?

Dave: We were once Bastards of Bupyeong, a cover band, playing all your favorite rock hits. That was just the beginning, though. Soon after, we started writing our own music, later we had a set of original songs that we played at shows. We decided we wanted to start fresh with a new name and a new range of songs.

Kevin: We needed to have a name to appeal to a mass group of people. So we each threw out ideas for names, came up with lists and mixed and matched. One day while we were on a train in Busan, we just sort of chose Magna Fall. It has an abstract vibe which represents our sound, which we like to refer to as "space rock." It doesn't really mean anything, but you can get the sense of the style we are after from the words.

Tae-il: You know there's no air in space. We can't hear sounds in space! So, space rock is weird!

How and when did you form?

Dave: We met in Bupyeong, Incheon. We were all at the same bar that night. Neil came up to me, I'd just met him. I think his first words were, "Do you know anyone that plays the drums?" I replied "I do." He had already arranged to meet Kevin, so we sat down and had a chat. We booked a studio for the following week.

Neil: We played our first show at Ruby's in Bupyeong and we took it from there as a three-piece. A year and many shows later we started preparing to record our first EP and to sort out tours of Japan and Taiwan. We then entered KBS Top Band, a Korean battle of the bands TV show. We decided to try to rattle some cages and became the only foreign band on the show. We entered and immediately got placed in the final 99 bands. We made it through and finally placed 19th.

After the mass exposure from this show we knew some labels would be interested in signing us so we had meetings with different managers before deciding to join Blossomland and manager Choi Yoon-sang. Shortly after we met Yoon-sang he introduced us to Kim Tae-il.

Since then we've been working together to keep progressing on the Korean scene as well as on the international scene. Once a month for five months we have "The Magna Fall Show," where we invite excellent guest bands to play with us at our label's head-

quarters in Jeonja Salon in Yongsan. Last month, we were lucky enough to have Transfixion and Superkidd as guests.

What Korean bands are you into at the moment?

Dave: Korean bands I enjoy watching live at the moment are Gateflowers, Gukkasten and Telefly, among others. Our last Magna Fall show guests were Transfixion and Superkidd. Both of those bands always put on a great show. Korean-based foreign bands that do the same are Angry Bear and The Fastwalkers.

Kevin: Same as Dave. I also like some of the more Western-influenced bands like GogoBoys, Harry Big Button, No. 1 Korean and Galaxy Express.

Tae-il: Recently I focused on overseas bands only. So, I can't talk about Korean bands just now. Sorry, Korean band friends.

Neil: I really like Apollo 18 and I admire the way they write experimental music, which doesn't have a huge audience here in Korea. That doesn't faze them as they keep releasing new material. I also really admire bands like Superkidd, who perform a more mainstream style.

What do you think of the expat music scene in Seoul?

Dave: I don't think there should be a separate expat music scene. Some bands find it hard to venture outside of the foreigner-type bars. There are lots of cool places to play at in Seoul though, and amazing bands to set up shows with. Expat bands that are not already involved in the music scene here should do so. We tried to, and we did. Plus, I think we will be here for a while. **GROOVE**

UPCOMING SHOWS

Check Facebook for "The Magna Fall Show" at Dokkaki Live Hall on some Saturdays. The "Magna Fall Show" features Magna Fall and two other bands. The show happens every month.

ALBUM INFO

The three-song single "No Mirror" was released at the end of February on iTunes and Spotify. The band will record their first full-length album in May and could release it as soon as June.

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SWEET AND SOUR AND OH SO GOOD

Foodies from Japan, Korea and China scour Seoul for their respective country's best eats

Story by Groove staff / **Photos by** Claire Jung

● Deep-fried and syrupy sweet, who doesn't enjoy a heaping plate of sweet and sour pork every now and then?

For the past three months, four women have scoured the city in search of the best dishes of Japan, Korea and China, respectively. First they sampled sushi. Then bulgogi. In the final installment of their three-month endeavor, Korean Claire Jung, China native Weiwei Hong, Korean Yang Sun-young and Japan native Fujishiro Tohko sought out the city's best sweet and sour pork.

Here's what they found:





AVERAGE SCOREBOARD /5

Taste	3.8	Access	3.1
Atmosphere	2.5	Kindness	2.7
		Price	3.7

PERSONAL SCOREBOARD

Fujishiro	3.3	Weiwei	2.8
Sun-young	3.5	Claire	3.2

"The service wasn't very good, but this place had a family charm to it that is hard to describe."

— Claire Jung

Song Hwa Won (송화원)

Address: 743-34 Hannam dong, Yongsan gu, Seoul
 Contact: (02) 794-8522

This third-generation family-run restaurant isn't exactly the kind of place you'd take a date, but they do serve up some decent and unique sweet and sour pork. What distinguishes the place is that they serve theirs in "gochujang" (Korean chili paste), rather than the traditional sauce. This makes it quite spicy. The spiciness is cut by lots of canned pineapple. It was also served with bak choi, onions and mushrooms. The pork is crunchy, which is a good thing.

The atmosphere is rough but somehow homey. There isn't much room inside; we actually bumped against the diners next to us a time or two. They don't put on airs, and the price reflects the grungy atmosphere.

The service leaves much to be desired. While the judges ate, the matriarch of the restaurant struck her son for unknown reasons. All the while the gruff chef grumbled to himself in the kitchen. The various noises produced by the staff were not appreciated.

Criticism: The restaurant feels like the kind of place Fred Sanford may have frequented, if he were into Asian food. We don't know if that's good or bad.

Praise: They don't pretend to be anything they're not, and they do manage to put a unique twist on a dish that's hard to make stand out.

Who: Song Hwa Won is the kind of place you'd go if you were looking for a unique experience. Do not – I repeat, do not – take a date to this place. Then again, it could make for a memorable time...



AVERAGE SCOREBOARD /5

Taste	3.1	Access	4.1
Atmosphere	3.7	Kindness	3.0
		Price	3.2

PERSONAL SCOREBOARD

Fujishiro	3.2	Weiwei	3.6
Sun-young	3.3	Claire	3.6

"The meat was really juicy and I loved the sweet and fresh taste of the pineapples."

— Weiwei Hong

Ho Lee Chow (홀리차우)

Address: 119-25, Itaewon 1-dong, Yongsan-gu, Seoul
 Phone: (02) 793-0802

Ho Lee Chow is unlike any other Chinese restaurant in Korea – it's totally American-style, right down to the American tunes on the stereo. The atmosphere is clean and spacious, like you'd expect at an American family restaurant. There were more non-Koreans here than there were Koreans, which also contributed to the feeling of the place.

Now to the food. The sweet and sour pork here was even more unique than that at Song Hwa Won – but that might not be a good thing. They missed a critical component of sweet and sour pork – the crunchiness of the pork. Instead it was soft – so soft it almost felt like chewing tofu. The color of the dish was also an unnatural pink. On the positive side, the pineapple in the dish tasted fresher than at other restaurants.

Ho Lee Chow feels like a restaurant you might find in an American Chinatown – or perhaps something even less authentic. It wasn't all bad though. It felt clean, comfortable and familiar. Maybe sweet and sour pork just isn't their specialty.

Criticism: The pork was too soft, too pale, and the pink color was disconcerting.

Praise: The restaurant is clean and comfortable, and the price is reasonable (₩17,500 for a dish that fed two).

Who: Ho Lee Chow is a good place to visit if you're in the mood for American-style Chinese food. It's about as close as you're going to get to Chinatown food in Seoul.



AVERAGE SCOREBOARD /5

Taste	3.8	Access	5.0
Atmosphere	2.8	Kindness	3.2
		Price	2.9

PERSONAL SCOREBOARD

Fujishiro	3.7	Weiwei	3.3
Sun-young	3.3	Claire	3.3

"If you place taste higher than atmosphere, then, this is the place for you."

— Fujishiro Tohko

Daegabang (대가방)

Address: 549-8 Sinsa-dong, Gangnam-gu, Seoul
Phone: (02) 546-6331

This Gangnam restaurant is well-known, and was packed with men swilling Mao Tai when we visited. The interior of the restaurant is nothing special. It's clean, sparsely decorated and not very big. Cozy, we'd say.

The real star of the restaurant is its sweet and sour pork. The chef is from Taiwan, and he nails the taste of real Chinese sweet and sour pork. The pork is coated in glutinous rice flour rather than wheat flour. The result is a crunchier exterior with a sticky layer between it and the pork. This style stands out for good reason. The pineapple and mushroom served with it were delightful as well. The sauce served with the pork was sweet, of course, and wrapped the dish up nicely.

Daegabang knows how to impress its customers. They tout their chef's background with a thorough profile on display at the table. Apparently he's been a professional chef since before our judges were born, and has cooked at several prestigious spots in Seoul before settling in at Daegabang.

Criticism: The interior of the place could be a little nicer and more spacious.

Praise: The food here is top-notch. The Taiwanese chef knows how to make a superior sweet and sour pork, set apart by his use of rice flour in the recipe.

Who: Daegabang is a sweet and sour pork joint for a foodie, or someone looking to enjoy a damn good dish. And of course they serve Chinese liquor if you're looking to knock a few back.



AVERAGE SCOREBOARD /5

Taste	3.4	Access	3.4
Atmosphere	2.8	Kindness	3.2
		Price	3.9

PERSONAL SCOREBOARD

Fujishiro	3.5	Weiwei	3.8
Sun-young	3.0	Claire	3.3

"Fed up with delivery sweet and sour pork? I highly recommend this authentic restaurant."

— Claire Jung

Chungaekga (천객가)

Address: 27-11 Jamwon-dong, Seocho-gu, Seoul
Phone: (02) 518-0838

Finally, a Chinese restaurant that screams out, "we're Chinese!" Chungaekga has gone to some lengths to create an atmosphere, unlike several other restaurants in our taste test. Chinese paintings hang on the walls, low lighting sets the mood, and diners eat with crimson-red chopsticks. Unfortunately they got a little carried away with their tables; ours was so tall it was uncomfortable for the judges.

The food at Chungaekga is authentic. Sadly it wasn't the best of the pork we tried. The pork here comes in great chunks, and is battered in rice flour, like the pork at the previous restaurant. But where Daegabang succeeded in the rice-flour-deep-fry, Chungaekga leaves something to be desired. The problem is with the batter; it just doesn't stick to the pork. This made for a less-than-appetizing texture. It didn't have enough crunch. That said, the dish was tasty.

They offer take-away service and do have other items, including some delicious deep-fried buns. And with the buns, they did get the texture right: crunch, crunch, crunch!

Criticism: Get that batter-to-meat thing down, and please lower the table!

Praise: Kudos to them for putting some effort into their décor. And the food here is tasty, if not the best we tried.

Who: The atmosphere here makes it ideal for a date or any dinner where you want to set the mood. Hopefully by the time you make it they will have perfected their technique.



AVERAGE SCOREBOARD /5

Taste	4.5	Access	2.7
Atmosphere	4.5	Kindness	4.7
		Price	1.7

PERSONAL SCOREBOARD

Fujishiro	3.6	Weiwei	3.5
Sun-young	3.7	Claire	3.4

"A crispy bite with tender meat inside. It was indeed amazing."

— Hong Weiwei

Golden Dragon (금룡)

Address: Sheraton Grande Walkerhill, Seoul
 Contact: (02) 450-4512

Golden Dragon is located in the Sheraton Grande Walkerhill, a five-star hotel which also has a Japanese restaurant and a Korean restaurant (which we tried for the sushi tasting and bul-gogi tasting, respectively). As you'd expect, this place was a little more upscale than the other we tried. The atmosphere here is posh – clean and stylishly decorated. But the best part of dining here is a magnificent view of the Han River.

Golden Dragon actually serves two styles of sweet and sour pork: Peking-style and Cantonese. We tried both. The Peking-style had good spice and a strong sweetness. The taste of that dish was definitely bold. The Cantonese dish had a softer texture and flavor. The pork in it was crunchy, but also tender.

The one complaint we had about the Golden Dragon is to be expected: the price. At 50,000 won for a plate of sweet and sour pork, it more than doubled the average price of the other places we tried. That's the price you pay for dinner in a luxury hotel, I guess.

Criticism: The price is prohibitive, and getting here is more difficult than ordering from your neighborhood place.

Praise: The food here is legit, and the service is wonderful, the atmosphere is posh, and the view will impress.

Who: The Golden Dragon is a great choice for a special occasion.



AVERAGE SCOREBOARD /5

Taste	3.3	Access	3.2
Atmosphere	3.1	Kindness	3.4
		Price	2.7

PERSONAL SCOREBOARD

Fujishiro	3.4	Weiwei	2.5
Sun-young	3.0	Claire	3.8

"I ordered Sichuan style stir-fried cabbage and it was really good."

— Yang Sun-young

Meichai (메이차이)

Address: SNU building B1, Dohwa-dong, Mapo-gu, Seoul
 Phone: (02) 6730-7111

Meichai sits in the basement of the Seoul National University Alumni building near Gongdoek Station.

It's modern and clean. A contemporary Chinese restaurant.

Upon exiting the elevator you find yourself already in the restaurant. The ceilings are high and there are private rooms for small groups of people (literally "small" people — the rooms are too small and we were packed in like sardines). The typical red wine-colored walls set the mood.

This place is famous for the twist it puts on this month's dish: Its sweet and sour pork is doused in lemon sauce, making sure the sour overpowers the sweet. It's not bad, but not great either.

As for the meat, one judge said the deep fried batter was crunchy and thick. Score one for Meichai. Another said the lemon sauce suited the deep fried pork very well. Score two. However, conspicuously, our Chinese judge said: "the taste wasn't something so special to be honest. Just edible."

Criticism: It was too close for comfort for a couple people in our party. The dish could use some veggies.

Praise: The pork is crunchy and thick and the lemon sauce works. Other dishes we tried are as greasy as Chinese food should be.

Who: This is a good place for people looking for a new twist on an old dish. Budget about 20,000 won per person, which is about the going rate in Seoul for decent Chinese food. Come here if you don't mind sitting very close to the other people in your party.

The best sweet and sour pork

RESULTS

1

Golden Dragon
3.5

2

Ho Lee Chow
3.42

3

Daegabang & Chungaekga
T3.4

PERSONAL CHOICES

Fujishiro: Daegabang (3.7), Golden Dragon (3.6), Chungaekga (3.5)

Sun-young: Golden Dragon (3.7), Song Hwa Won (3.5), Ho Lee Chow (3.3)

WeiWei: Chungaekga (3.8), Ho Lee Chow (3.6), Golden Dragon (3.5)

Claire: Meichai (3.8), Ho Lee Chow (3.6), Golden Dragon (3.4)

MEET THE JUDGES



Fujishiro Tohko

Age: 27

From: Chiba, Japan

In Seoul: Office worker for SK Networks

What else: Fujishiro loves Korean food and cooks it every weekend. She is married and is a mother of two. She majored in Korean literature at Sookmyeong Women's university.



Hong Weiwei

Age: 27

From: Xiamen, China

In Seoul: Chinese PR associate

What else: Hong met her Korean husband at university in Beijing in 2007 and the two married in 2011. She is not fond of spicy and salty foods, so most Korean cuisine is out of the question.



Yang Sun-young

Age: 25

From: Seoul

In Seoul: Jack of all trades – translating, writing, blogging

What else: Yang was born in Seoul, but spent most of her youth overseas. She is a vegetarian but was excited when asked to participate in this project. She wrote about complementary dishes, atmosphere and service.



Claire Jung

Age: 25

From: Seoul

In Seoul: Office worker at Groove Korea

What else: Claire likes eating and enjoys the challenge of finding a good restaurant. She has worked at Groove since graduating university and completed a year of school in Shanghai.



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AT MAGPIE, A FOCUS ON SIMPLICITY

For a beer purist, visiting Magpie is not unlike having an epiphany

As someone who reviews things food- and brew-related regularly, I've got a checklist. Yes, I know having a checklist for a brewpub sounds a bit uptight, but quality control in reviewing is nearly as important as it is in brewing. The point here is that you will find there are things that you need and things that you don't need in order for a brewpub to be great. At the Magpie Brewing Company, the list of "checks" is a short one:

- Good Beer - check
- Good People - check
- Roof/Walls/Seats - check

There is a simplicity to Magpie that can't be found except on rare occasions. For a beer purist, visiting Magpie is not unlike having an epiphany — a stroke of clarity. It's similar to the feeling you get when you find something treasured that you had given up for lost.

Started as a "brew kitchen," Magpie has not developed its interior much past that. Upon entering, you will find it quite bare. The modern metal and concrete of the building have been dressed with little more than lights. Stools line the bar and a single standing table. Jars of barley and glass beakers sit out on the counter near the tap and large kettles rest upon a stove behind the bar. More beer brewing gear sits neatly about than there is equipment to serve patrons. Despite the sparse interior, there is an unexplainable warmth. Perhaps it comes from good vibes stored during the colder months. Perhaps it is the warmth of the kitchen, coming from the heat of the stove and the boiling kettle. Maybe it is just the warmth from my second or third pint of pale ale. Or was it porter ...

In addition to whatever seasonal concoction has been conjured up by its crew, Magpie maintains two flagship brews. The porter is correctly described as warm and dark. Easy drinking for such a dark beer, it is gentle and not at all bitter, but still maintains a sufficient complexity to keep your interest past the first pint. It's really enjoyable. The pale ale is a hoppy, citrusy American adaptation of an India Pale Ale (IPA), adjusted ever so slightly for Korea. What that boils down to is a dark, golden-amber color (a not-so-pale ale) with that cloudy hint that unfiltered craft beers should have. Nicely sweet, but not overly so, it is a dream come true for folks like me who enjoy the style. Both beers come in nice full pints.

My only reservation is thus. Having grown too big for its britches, most of the brewing is now done off-site at KaBrew, where other local notables do their craft work as well. While this does detract slightly from the overall authenticity of the ultra-micro-craft brewer, it is also a necessary step required to simply provide enough beer to meet demand (or most of the demand anyway). The beer is still great; the attention to quality and to preserving what was created in the original kitchen is still present.

Also, because of the outsourcing, the owners need not spend 28 hours a day brewing beer. They can serve customers, teach brewing classes (contact info@MagpieBrewing.com for details) and have lives outside brewing.

The growth in Magpie's popularity has led to other changes as well, such as a need to expand physical space, not just brewing volume.

Magpie's new basement brewpub has just opened right next to the current location. This new location offers Magpie beers and homemade pizza, plus it's open a little later. The old location is transitioning into a growler/bottle shop where you can get a pint while picking up a two-liter bottle (glass of course) for home.

Magpie isn't a place for a quick bite to eat or a romantic dinner (unless you brought your own food). Nor is it a cocktail bar to hang out in and look chic. It also isn't a mega-bar with dozens of beers and scores of tables. While none of these other types of places are bad (in fact, some are now greatly improved as they carry Magpie on tap — be sure to ask at Reilly's Taphouse, Maloney's, Phillies, and Vatos to name a few), they aren't simply about the beer. At Magpie Brewing Co. it is simply about the beer. Simply good beer. **GROOVE**



GETTING THERE

Magpie Brewing Company is located in Gyeong-nidan/Itaewon, just behind the Baker's Table.
용산구 이태원동 691번지 (Yongsan-gu, Itaewon-dong 691)

MORE INFO

Hours: Tuesday-Sunday 4-11 p.m.
Visit www.magpiebrewing.com or find them at
[Facebook.com/magpiebrewing](https://www.facebook.com/magpiebrewing)
[Twitter.com/MagpieBrewing](https://twitter.com/MagpieBrewing).



RING IN SPRING WITH A PINT AT REILLY'S

Story and Photos by Shelley DeWees

I shuffled through toward the dimly lit door, hood up and head down, body bent against the wet springtime wind. I slopped up the stairs, opened the door, and stepped over the threshold – to a lodge on a lonely moor in Yorkshire. Or maybe I was somewhere in Vermont. In 1921. Wherever I was, I certainly wasn't in Korea anymore.

And how can you blame me for being turned about? The place is crammed with dark polished wood, brick, and burnished metal. Everyone wears leather and tweed and plaid. Ski caps abound. The low lights glint off a hundred half-full pint glasses held by smiling, cheerful people, and I am abashed. The snappy wind is blowing wetly, the windows are rattling, and here we are, partying like chums at Reilly's Taphouse, the happiest place on Earth. This is where you bring your rice-ravaged mind to flop down, sink into the dark leather, and stay awhile. Things are lookin' fine tonight.

SWEET SELECTION

The beer menu is a showstopper with enough ales, lagers, stouts, porters and pilsners to make your head go fuzzy.



Reilly's is an Itaewon newcomer, tucked up on the third floor of an unassuming building you've probably walked by 500 times. The beer menu is a showstopper with enough ales, lagers, stouts, porters and pilsners to make your head go fuzzy. Trying more than one is an absolute must, and trying a few is more than likely for any beer lover (no one around here will judge if you pour yourself into a cab 3 hours later). The Maggie Porter is a customer favorite, along with the sweet Schloss Dunkel and the blacker-than-black Seorak Oatmeal Stout, but I was enraptured by the Scottish Wee Heavy. Served in a dazzlingly large glass and topped with a creamy head, my heart was on wings. So when Troy Zitzelsberger, the self-named Beer Guy of this cozy establishment, appeared at my elbow and asked if I'd like another round, I said, "Well sure!" His status as a certified cicerone makes him more like a beer doctor, considering how many months of study he devoted to acquiring the coveted status. He treated me to a bottle of Tripel Karmeliet, a smooth honey-colored Belgian that sings with vanilla and packs a solid 8.4% alcohol by volume. Zitzelsberger

called this little gem (his current favorite) a "creeper." Beware those words from a beer doctor.

Good thing Reilly's burgeoning menu of comfort food is there to take the edge off your warming belly. Chef Chris DeBord has put together a promising selection of southern pub favorites spiked with fanciness – Grandmother meets Oscar Wilde on a plate. Chris has your old faves like fried sweet potatoes, onion rings, fish and chips, and fries covered (and covered well), but he's also rollin' out big, beautiful bowls of mussels and hunks of meatloaf smothered in brown gravy. He really shines at sauces, something he's fully utilized while putting together this menu. "It's a work in progress," he says. And good progress it's making. DeBord came over and explained his hope for the future menu at Reilly's, a prototype he was trying out when I was there

that weekend: lamb shank, two hearty soups, a sandwich or two, and bread pudding or chocolate mousse for dessert. His southern USA foundation begins to show as he talks, and it becomes clear how personally invested he is in the success of his food.

That's how it is at Reilly's. Personal. This place has "personal" written all over it. The people behind the bar are the ones who own it, carefully pouring from one of their taps (there are 20), making sure the proper glass has been chosen before handing it off to you. Everyone is so jovial and enthusiastic, you'll wish they'd pull up a chair and take a few sips with you. You'll be right over there, tucked into your third glass under the watchful eyes of Winston Churchill, mopping up the last of your red pepper aioli with another perfect onion ring, having way too much fun. Go with friends. Go alone and make some new ones. Just go. Reilly's will be your new fave. **GROOVE**



GETTING THERE

Walk straight out of Itaewon Station, line 6, exit 2. Reilly's is close by, on the left side, just beyond Smoothie King, on the third floor.

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KITCHEN SHOCK

THE JUJUBE

This fruit is commonly used in teas, as well as the warm weather favorite, samgyetang

Column by Lisa Pollack
Photos by Robert Couse-Baker

Contribute or comment:
joshforeman@groovekorea.com

For most, the term “jujube” conjures memories of a candy that gets stuck in your teeth. In Korea, the term more likely refers to a small fruit known also as a Korean plum. Green to mahogany-red depending on its ripeness, the fruit has a sweet flesh and large center stone. In these spring months, jujubes are still widely available.

Dried jujubes can be boiled down with water and sugar to make a tasty syrup for pancakes or waffles, or simmered with chicken, lemons and spice to make a Moroccan-style tagine. In Korean cooking, jujubes are commonly used in teas, as well as the warm weather favorite, samgyetang (chicken ginseng soup). Jujubes also signify fertility in the

traditional Korean wedding ceremony. The mother-in-law tosses them towards a bride’s skirt to bequeath an omen of many children.

Going beyond edible delights, its uses across Asia go beyond the norm. In Chinese and Korean traditional medicine, the fruit is believed to alleviate stress. In the Himalayas, teenage boys lure ladies with the jujube’s flowers, as its sweet smell is said to make you fall in love. And in Pakistan, it provides coveted protection to your nether regions. Dried jujubes are often used as padding in leather horse saddles.

No matter your fancy, jujubes are just the thing to add some sweetness to the damp spring palette. **GROOVE**

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IPA

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색상: 황금빛의 호박(보석) 색

주성분: 브리티시 휘글스 홉 (Fuggles/정통 영국 품종)

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약간 씹힐 맛의 나며 맥주 애호가들이
선호하는 스타일

India Pale Ale

STYLE: India Pale Ale.

COLOUR: Golden amber.

KEY INGREDIENTS: British-style hops
known as Fuggles. Seriously.

CHARACTER: A classic ale dry hopped to lend
a distinctive character. Spicy warm, earthy.

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OUR BEER

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STYLE: Brown Ale.
COLOUR: Deep copper with garnet flashes.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Three varieties of hops, and a blend of caramel, pale and black malts.
CHARACTER: Fills your mouth with a fusion of toasty malt and sweet caramel up front finishing with a nutty flavour, medium creamy carbonation.



STYLE: Wheat Ale.
COLOUR: Golden yellow.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Three types of pale and wheat malts.
CHARACTER: Light on the palate, yet packed with flavour and European hop aroma, with fruity or citrusy notes.



STYLE: Dark Lager.
COLOUR: Amber with white, billowy head.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Blend of pale and caramel malts, as well as honey from Three Hills, and two varieties of hops.
CHARACTER: Sweet and honey/molasses flavour, slightly hopped with fuller mouth feel.



STYLE: Brown Ale.
COLOUR: Warm reddish light brown.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Blend of pale, caramel and black malts and a blend of three hop varieties.
CHARACTER: Malty with a hint of toffee balanced with very evident hop and followed by a clean finish.



STYLE: Irish Red Ale.
COLOUR: Caramel coloured with a reddish hue.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Blend of pale, caramel and black malts, and three varieties of hops.
CHARACTER: Sweet and hoppy, caramel and dark fruity plum notes.



STYLE: Scottish Style Heavy Ale.
COLOUR: Bronze with toffee tones.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Pale malt, caramel malt, peated malt, munich malt, hops.
CHARACTER: Strong and full bodied with a complex mix of toffee, caramel, vanilla and a hint of peat.



STYLE: Light lime Lager.
COLOUR: Soft gold.
KEY INGREDIENTS: Pure malted barley, hops, water and lime.
CHARACTER: Light body with slight lime aroma and flavour.



STYLE: Dry Cider.
COLOUR: Light yellow (varies by batch).
KEY INGREDIENTS: Okanagan apples, pears.
CHARACTER: Apple with notes of vanilla and cinnamon, mouth feel is crisp and dry.

Big Rock beers at:

SEOUL Randy's Bar • Baby Guinness 1st • Rose & Crown • Dillinger's bar • Rocky Mountain Tavern • The Wolfhound • Scrooge pub
Reilly's TAPHOUSE • PROST PUB & GRILL • Big Rock Pub Restaurant • COTTO • La Celtique • Butcher's Cut • WEASEL PUB • Vongo

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BUNDANG Traveler's Bar & Grill

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SEOUL SUNDAY FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Already the most popular league in the country for expats, it's looking to take the next step

Story by Mark Dowhall
Photos by Shannon Aston

Contribute or comment:
jennyna@groovekorea.com





"WITHOUT THE SSFL, I WOULD NOT HAVE STAYED IN KOREA AS LONG AS I HAVE."

— SBFC MANAGER MARTIN ESLEY

On a cold Sunday afternoon at Yongsan Army Base, two teams from Seoul Sunday Football League are preparing for the season ahead. For many, it is their first Sunday outing of the year; a chance to reunite with friends they have not seen over the winter break. Some of the play is haphazard and rusty, with each player struggling to keep warm as the chill of subzero temperatures nibbles away at their faces. Yet with the new season just around the corner and the prospect of warming spring temperatures, the consensus is clear: It's good to be back.

One of the players on this particular day is St. Pat's midfielder, Darragh Creegan.

"We're very lucky to have this league," he says. "It's well organized, and it's a good standard. Sunday can be a boring day sometimes, so it's good to have a game to look forward to."

He has been in Korea for three years and says one of

the first things he did when he came here was look for a soccer team to join.

"The main reason was that I wanted to play soccer and I was lucky enough to get in touch with the Pats," he says. "It was a great help settling into life here because I didn't know that many people when I moved here and through the team I was able to meet a good group of lads who had been living here for a while."

The industrious midfielder is part of a growing expat sports/social community that has gone from five-member teams in the league's early days to its current format of two divisions with 20 teams in total. The league, founded in 2002, has also spread to satellite cities such as Suwon, Bundang and Ilsan, and to cities such as Incheon and Cheongju. There is a spring league and a fall league, and most of the players are foreign-born and employed either as teachers or by the U.S. Army.



"WE HAVE A SOLID BASE OF HIGHLY SKILLED PLAYERS. THIS INCLUDES SOME EX-PROFESSIONALS, SOME WHO ARE CURRENTLY ON THE CUSP OF PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTS, AND WE HAVE ALLIED THAT TO A GROUP OF PLAYERS WHO ENJOY THE PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CHALLENGE OF COMPETING BOTH IN THE LEAGUE AND IN THE BAR AFTERWARDS."

— LEAGUE CHAIRMAN MARTIN BUSHELL

"We have a solid base of highly skilled players," says league chairman Martin Bushell. "This includes some ex-professionals, some who are currently on the cusp of professional contracts, and we have allied that to a group of players who enjoy the physical and mental challenge of competing both in the league and in the bar afterwards."

"We take pride in our approach to welcoming all. We have a female team in the league also, who have improved immensely over the last two seasons, and we're hoping to see them kick on again this season."

The league is an important part of the local community and has ties with most of the bars/businesses in the main expat area of Itaewon and beyond. Mainstay bars such as The Wolfhound, Dillingers and Hollywood Grill have served as sponsors for extended periods of time, and their support continues to be integral to the survival and expansion of the league.

At present, the league is in talks with a local business group in an effort to secure sponsorship for the league itself.

"It is similar to how most professional leagues work with an overall sponsor, such as Barclays in the EPL," says Bushell. "This will hopefully help provide funds that the league can work with to overcome the biggest problem that the league continues to face: soccer pitches."

He adds: "Seoul is a massive city housing an enormous number of people, but space is at a premium and therefore finding local astroturf pitches for the league is becoming increasingly difficult as soccer becomes a bigger social event in Korea. Having to travel further afield for games is a problem for some teams, and hopefully direct investment in the league can help us secure pitches for teams on a long-term basis rather than struggling month-to-month to get a field."

Now that the season is under way and the bitter cold of the winter has receded, Sunday afternoons will have a familiar feel. Seoul British Football Club manager Martin Espley says he is hoping to replicate last year's Division I success, adding that "winning the league with a squad full of best mates" was one of the best experiences he has had in Korea.

"Getting ready to party with mates from Britain, United States, Canada, South Africa, Jamaica, Australia, Spain and of course Korea is something I'll remember for the rest of my life," he continues. "Along with meeting my girlfriend while living in Korea, playing and managing the SBFC is the best thing about my time here. Without the SSFL, I would not have stayed in Korea as long as I have."

As for the future, Bushell is optimistic that the league can continue to build on the progress it has made.

"Striking a deal with Arirang TV to get a highlights package of our games is something that is on my mind," he says. "And hopefully with a little extra time in the future, I can sort something out."

"If the league can continue to grow as it has done over the last couple of seasons and we can secure said investment, I hope and predict that the league will flourish as the expat community continues to integrate itself into mainstream Korean life." **GROOVE**



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- Look them up on Facebook.

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SEOUL GAELS SAIL INTO THE NEXT DECADE

Gaelic football club is flourishing – and
there's always room for more

Story by Daragh Meredith and Marie Whittle
Photos by Will Bell and Alan Price

Contribute or comment:
jennyna@groovekorea.com

When the Seoul Gaels got started, it was just two lads talking in a bar in Itaewon. Today, the club is entering its second decade as a formidable group of 65 with more than a few titles to its name. Now, it's reaching out to the community to invite new members into the fold.

The idea for the club came just ahead of the Asian Gaelic Games in September 2002, and there were just six members at its first practice that July. But word got around, membership grew and after little more than two months of practice, the Gaels came home with the tournament trophy, having beaten two-time champions Japan and regular finalists Singapore – the first of their three-year reign over the event.

Buoyed by their success, a ladies' team was

formed late in that first year, and the club has since grown into an outlet for many expats living in Korea, Irish and otherwise.

For the uninitiated, Gaelic football is a field sport full of speed, agility, skill and passion played by two teams of 15. Think of it as a combination of association football and rugby.

The club is governed by the Gaelic Athletic Association, which is based in Ireland and has a storied 129-year history. It has been an integral part of many Irish communities around the globe since its establishment, and there are now hundreds of clubs worldwide.

Like the GAA, the Seoul Gaels is more than just a sports club. The friendships begin on the training field and are further strengthened over a drink or



MORE INFO

Email seoulgaels@gmail.com, find Seoul Gaels on Facebook, or visit www.seoulgaels.com.

SEOUL GAELS SUMMER CAMP

This year, the Seoul Gaels are forming a team for young Koreans ages 11-15. The team will travel to Ireland in July to study at an English camp in the western part of the country, where they will also learn Gaelic football, hurling, Irish dancing and music. Team members will also play a football game at halftime during a major regional final match in Ireland. In addition, they will get to meet the Irish prime minister and will experience Irish culture through a homestay experience. Contact Conor Melvin at development.seoulgaels@gmail.com.

two at many of the club's social events. Both the sporting affairs and social events – from St. Patrick's Day outings to hiking day-trips, fund-raisers and social nights out – are organized by the club committee to ensure that members always feel welcome.

New members are welcome to join at any time throughout the season, and the club guarantees that they will have fun, enjoy the sport, improve their fitness and make lifelong friends.

There is a women's team and a men's team and both train every Saturday for two hours from April to October.

One of the current players on the women's team, Gezina Annandale from South Africa, said she will always remember her time with the club.



KOREAN LEAGUE, BUSAN, APRIL 2012

Taidgh Simpson wrestles his way through Laochra Busan's defenders.



KOREAN LEAGUE, BUSAN, APRIL 2012

Padraic Cummane jumps for the ball.

THE FRIENDSHIPS BEGIN ON THE TRAINING FIELD AND ARE FURTHER STRENGTHENED OVER A DRINK OR TWO AT MANY OF THE CLUB'S SOCIAL EVENTS.

"Being part of the Seoul Gaels has made my time in Korea so much more memorable and is one of the reasons why I want to stay in Korea," she said. "We are like one big crazy family who are there for one another in good times and bad times."

People new to the sport are encouraged to go to a training session, where they will be taught the basics in a pressure-free, fun and friendly environment.

"I think that Seoul Gaels can make a significant contribution in helping any person adapt to life in Korea," said Sean Cummane, who has been playing on the men's team for the last five years. "Our club is open to all nationalities, and it is a great means of making new friends and accelerating the settling-in process."

He said he also enjoys the competitiveness of practices and the tournaments in which they compete.

"Seoul Gaels is one of the few expat clubs in Korea that offers a chance to play in international tournaments, and this is a great attraction for those interested in competitive sports," he said.

This year, they will travel to Busan and Daegu to play the teams there for the Korean League title, with the final match played in Seoul in late summer, and the All China Games in June. The season culminates with the Asian Gaelic Games in Kuala Lumpur in October. They are strong competitors at every event, and many of their members, both men and women, have been named All Stars or received MVP awards over the years.

In October 2011, the club hosted the Asian Gaelic Games in Suwon, with 24 clubs and more than 50 teams from 15 countries in competition for eight trophies in Gaelic football and hurling, which combines elements of hockey and lacrosse.

But beyond the tournaments and the trophies are the lasting friendships and sense of community that Seoul Gaels members say they get from being part of the team.

As Thomas Gaughan, the current club chairman, said, "The Seoul Gaels gives you a family when you're so far away from home."

Training commences this month and runs through to October. Join them at a field in Seoul or get in touch to find out about the teams in Daegu or Busan. **GROOVE**



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RAISE YOUR VOICE, THEN YOUR GLASS

Korea Toastmasters helps locals and expats become better communicators

STORY & PHOTOS BY **LINDSEY COULTER**

Contribute or comment:
jennyna@groovekorea.com

When Marcie Gansler opened her club's Feb. 22 meeting, the snug room in Yeouido's HP building was already buzzing with energy. Alongside a list of the evening's speakers, two words were scrawled across the white board: "alcohol" and "uninhibited."

On any given night, numerous Toastmasters clubs across Korea do much the same. Locals and expats meet to speak, listen, evaluate and help each other become better communicators. They also have a grammarian, whose job is to keep an ear out for proper and improper grammar use and to highlight effective or interesting language.

In that pleasantly cramped boardroom in Yeouido, TM members mused on inhibition, the theme of the evening, and gave light-hearted speeches about everything from failed job interviews to circulation-boosting foods – pausing often for laugh breaks.

While alcohol isn't generally a featured item on the itinerary, its inclusion is a prime example of the laid-back, social atmosphere found at most meetings.

Despite Toastmasters International's 21-year presence in the country, Korea Toastmasters, the national governing body, only debuted in 2010. Today, nearly 40 clubs and unchartered meetings (those yet to reach the 20-member mark) gather weekly.

Without a doubt, Korea Toastmasters is on the rise. With four new members recently inducted at Yeouido TM alone – and the addition of Ilsan Standard TM – national membership is nearing 1,000. The national organization is divided into clubs, which are also grouped into areas. Areas then become part of divisions and finally territorial councils.

Toastmasters Area 20 governor Cho Hyun-

min belongs to the country's oldest club, Pacific Sunset TM in Yongsan.

"When I joined in 2005, there were only three clubs in Korea and around 90 members. A lot of that growth has happened in the last four to five years," said Cho, who provides support, assistance and some oversight for five clubs in his area.

When it comes to the reason for the rise,

"I CONSIDER YEUIDO TM MY FAMILY. WE SHARE DIFFICULT LIFE EXPERIENCES AND CRY. WE SHARE HUMOROUS SPEECHES AND LAUGH. WE INSPIRE

– **MASHHUR SATTOROV, YEUIDO TOASTMASTERS MEMBER**

members have a few different theories. Many say that increasing their confidence or tackling a public speaking phobia is their primary motivation for joining Toastmasters.

However, Patrick Noh, a political science student and the president of Gangnam's bilingual Japanese English TM, credits changing social tides.

"Culturally, (Koreans) are not used to speaking in front of people, but it's the 21st century and it's important," he said. "We need practice. We're looking for a place."

English teacher Choi Ji-young, a dual member of Kingdom of Hyehwa TM and Yonsei TM, said that the internet and a broad desire to hone English skills have helped spread the word.

"Blogs are the biggest area of promotion,

Members gather at the 318th meeting of the Yeouido Toastmasters club in February.



The Yeouido TM 318th meeting itinerary.



Serena Park, Yeouido TM sergeant-at-arms, gives a brief speech on Korean social drinking norms.



Evaluator Song Ju-hyeon marks a member speech.

and Facebook and Meetup.com have helped in terms of promotion to foreigners," she added.

Business trends have also highlighted an element of Toastmasters that appeals to Koreans and expats alike: networking.

Michael Magidson, the former president of Yeouido TM, describes the organization as a networking bubble. As members are encouraged to club-hop, opportunities for new personal and professional connections are vast. For instance, the evening's grammarian, Cliff Reeves, frequents three different clubs, and Gansler, the Yeouido Toastmasters president, is also a member of both Yonsei and Seoul Advanced TM.

However, the real secret to Toastmasters' Korean boom may have to do with those two words scribbled across the whiteboard that night. Thanks to the time-honored social/cultural institution of hoesik (company dinners), Toastmasters meetings across the country regularly end with members downing coffee, beer or soju, and breaking the ice Korean-style at a widely attended second-round social hour known as i-cha, which in many cases continues into "sam-cha" – round three.

Yeouido Toastmasters' venue of choice is a lively bar around the corner. As soon as the fried snacks and ket-tles of makgeolli hit the table, chopsticks and conversations fly.

These social events are a big reason that software engineer Mashhur Sattorov, who moved to Korea three years ago from Uzbekistan, keeps coming back.

"I consider Yeouido TM my family," he said. "We share difficult life experiences and cry. We share humorous speeches and laugh. We inspire and motivate each other."

Looking around the table crowded with bodies and humming with laughter, this appears to be the most functional – and well-spoken – family ever. **GROOVE**



HOW TO GET INVOLVED IN KOREA TOASTMASTERS

Open to essentially anyone with an interest in personal and professional development, Korea Toastmasters puts everyone from students to CEOs on an equal playing field. Here is how you can get involved:

- Visit www.koreatm.org and click the "Come Visit Us" tab to search local clubs
- Start club hopping and find your fit
- Contact the club's vice president of membership and fill out an application
- Get voted in by the existing membership
- Pay membership dues
- Get to work on being an awesome communicator

PUBLIC SPEAKING ADVICE FROM KOREA TOASTMASTERS PROFESSIONALS

- Don't let them see you bleed. You can't be perfect in every situation, but you can at least be adaptable. – Cho Hyun-min, Korea TM Area 20 governor
- Make an outline. If you memorize, inevitably you'll forget a really simple word, and it's going to mess up your entire speech. – Marcie Gansler, Yeouido TM president
- Don't bring notes to the stage. You'll feel tempted to look and get lost. Make eye contact with every single audience member. – Choi Ji-young, vice president of membership for Kingdom of Hyehwa TM
- Public speaking is not easy. You have to practice a lot. Just don't be afraid of making mistakes. – Patrick Noh, president of Japanese English TM
- Don't imagine the audience naked – engage them. The best speeches have two-way communication. – Michael Magidson, former Yeouido TM president

"CULTURALLY, [KOREANS] ARE NOT USED TO SPEAKING IN FRONT OF PEOPLE, BUT IT'S THE 21ST CENTURY AND IT'S IMPORTANT. WE NEED PRACTICE. WE'RE LOOKING FOR A PLACE."

– PATRICK NOH, PRESIDENT OF THE JAPANESE ENGLISH TM



YONSEI UNIVERSITY
DENTAL HOSPITAL



KEE-JOON LEE, D.D.S., Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Orthodontics,
Yonsei University Dental Hospital

HOW TO SAVE YOUR TEETH AND GUMS

With orthodontic treatment

● Orthodontics is a specialty field of dentistry in which treatment consists of teeth alignment. The results of orthodontic treatment lead to more esthetically pleasing smiles and faces that contribute to an individual's self-confidence. Furthermore, transforming malocclusions (overbites) into ideal occlusions contributes to improved chewing ability (masticatory function).

However, one of the most important functions of orthodontics is prolonging the lifetime of one's own natural teeth by providing the patient with ideal occlusion. As the old saying goes, healthy teeth are one of the "five fortunes," and in today's world where some people live to be 100 years old, the ability to use one's natural teeth later in life is an unmistakable determinant in raising the standard of living.

Not only can trauma, cavities (caries), and gum disease (periodontal disease) endanger the health of natural teeth over the course of a lifetime, but tooth grinding and tooth fractures can be contributing factors as well; albeit these factors may not be independent of each other, but do have accumulative effects.

Whatever the reason for tooth loss may be, restorative treatment through prosthodontic bridges, implants or dentures can be offered, but compared to natural teeth, the chewing ability (masticatory function) of these treatment options is known to be less than ideal.

Additionally, prosthetic teeth lack immune functions and extra care is needed in their maintenance. While the essence of orthodontic treatment consists of adjusting the growth of the jaw bones and moving teeth, the periodontal ligament which surrounds the roots of teeth consist of

ONE OF THE MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT HAS TO DO WITH TIMING FOR TREATMENT AND DEPENDING ON THE PATIENT'S AGE, SIMILAR OR DIFFERENT STRATEGIES ARE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION BEFORE INITIATING TREATMENT.

stem cells that have regenerative capabilities and, therefore, have the ability to form alveolar bone through tooth movement.

One of the most frequently asked questions regarding orthodontic treatment has to do with timing for treatment and depending on the patient's age, similar or different strategies are taken into consideration before initiating treatment.

EARLY ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

Orthodontics for patients with congenitally missing teeth

The transition from the primary dentition to permanent dentition normally occurs during the elementary school years. If irregularities in the dentition are detected during this period, the first phase of orthodontic treatment can be considered. Even if there are no irregularities in the dentition, the incidence of one to two congenitally missing teeth is reported to be 4-5 percent of the total population on average.

Early orthodontic treatment in these patients can lead to the establishment of an occlusion of entirely natural teeth by closing the spaces resulting from missing teeth by moving the remaining

For further dentistry information or reservations, please call Ms. Aeri Jo, the English coordinator at Yonsei University Dental Hospital.

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teeth next to each other so the patient will not need to depend on restorative implants or crowns during their lifetime.

Another risk factor for early orthodontic treatment is impacted teeth, and considering an incidence rate close to 10 percent in patients presenting to dental offices, the incidence of patients with potentially impacted teeth is estimated to be higher. Approximately 50 percent of patients with impacted teeth exhibit resorption of neighboring teeth and the occurrence of eventual tooth loss of the affected teeth occurs comparatively frequently, though no symptoms may have been detected. Therefore, it is recommended that elementary school children receive dental checkups yearly, at the very least, so that preventative measures can be taken to avoid such complications.

ADOLESCENT ORTHODONTIC TREATMENT

Orthodontics utilizing wisdom teeth (third molars)

Upon eruption of the permanent dentition, cavities (caries) can become a problem if oral hygiene is not properly maintained. In severe instances, teeth can be lost as a result of rampant cavities (caries) and restored with prosthetic teeth. However, when this happens, orthodontic treatment can be utilized to close the spaces left behind by the extracted teeth so that an acceptable occlusion is established. The so-called six-year molar and largest tooth, more specifically known as the maxillary first molar, is the most frequently lost and in such cases, completely developed third molars can be moved forward to substitute the missing tooth.

Although this procedure may take longer than autotransplantation of a tooth into the space left by the first molar, the fact that endodontic therapy and additional surgical procedures are not needed, as well as the ability to save a healthy wisdom tooth (third molar) count as distinct advantages. Furthermore, during the early adolescent period, problems that are difficult to address with orthodontics alone, such as facial asymmetries, large underbites (protrusive lower jaw) and large overbites (retrusive lower jaw) can be treated with a combination of surgery and orthodontics.

ADULT ORTHODONTICS

Esthetic and discreet orthodontics

Though teeth may be aligned in early adulthood, it is not uncommon for crowding of the front teeth to become more apparent in later adulthood. More specifically, protrusion of the front teeth can occur as crowding becomes more severe and as a result, support from alveolar bone is lost which in turn can lead to unexpected gum (periodontal) disease and a greater potential for tooth loss. It has been reported that the wisdom teeth (third molars) typically do not play a role in this process, but that the forward migration of the teeth is due to chewing movements over a long period of time.

Orthodontics should not be ruled out as an option for middle-aged patients for improving gum disease while aligning the teeth and depending on the circumstances, lingual or segmental orthodontics can be pursued as a more discreet treatment option. While the level of improvement following orthodontic treatment can vary according to the case, the fact that orthodontics is possible later in life, even in patients aged 70-80 years, should be kept in mind.

Orthodontics has become crucial not only for the alignment of teeth for esthetic purposes, but for the preservation of natural teeth so that they may last a lifetime and continue to provide chewing functions. It would be most ideal to maintain one's own teeth, but in unforeseen circumstances in which permanent teeth are lost, orthodontics can revive and lengthen the lifespan of a natural occlusion.

Lee Kee-joon, DDS, PhD, is a professor in the Department of Orthodontics, Yonsei University Dental Hospital. The opinions expressed here are those of the author's and do not necessarily represent those of Groove Korea. — Ed.

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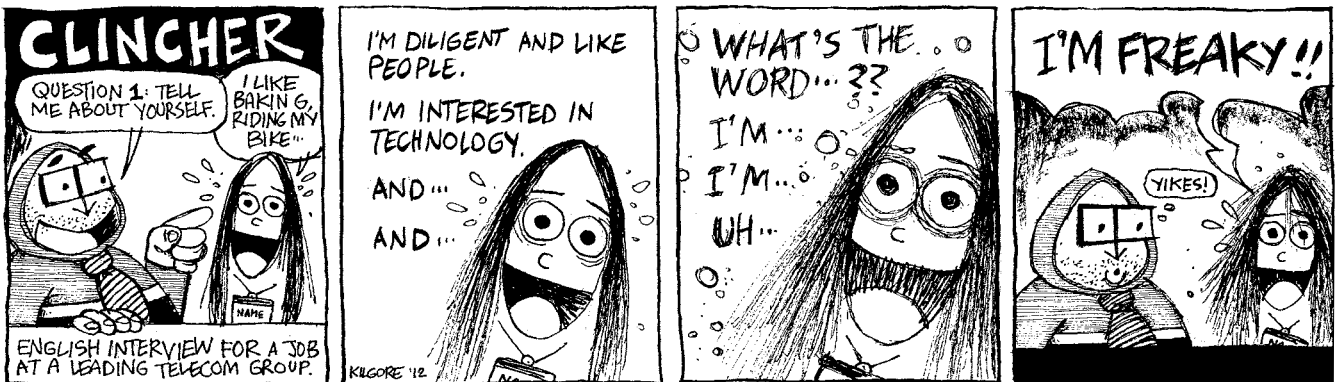
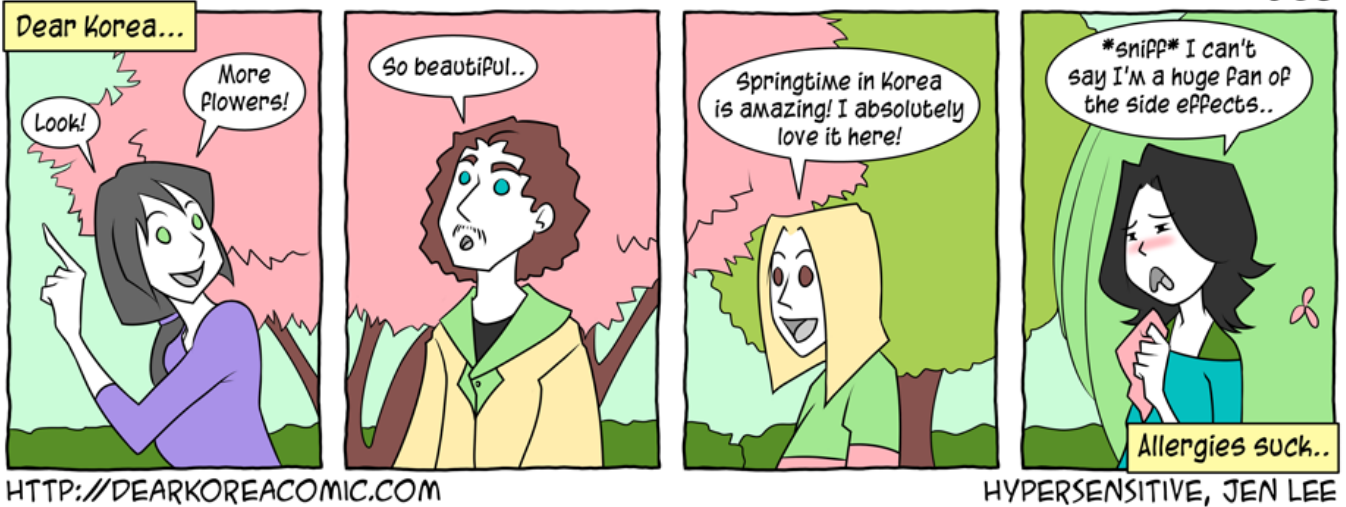
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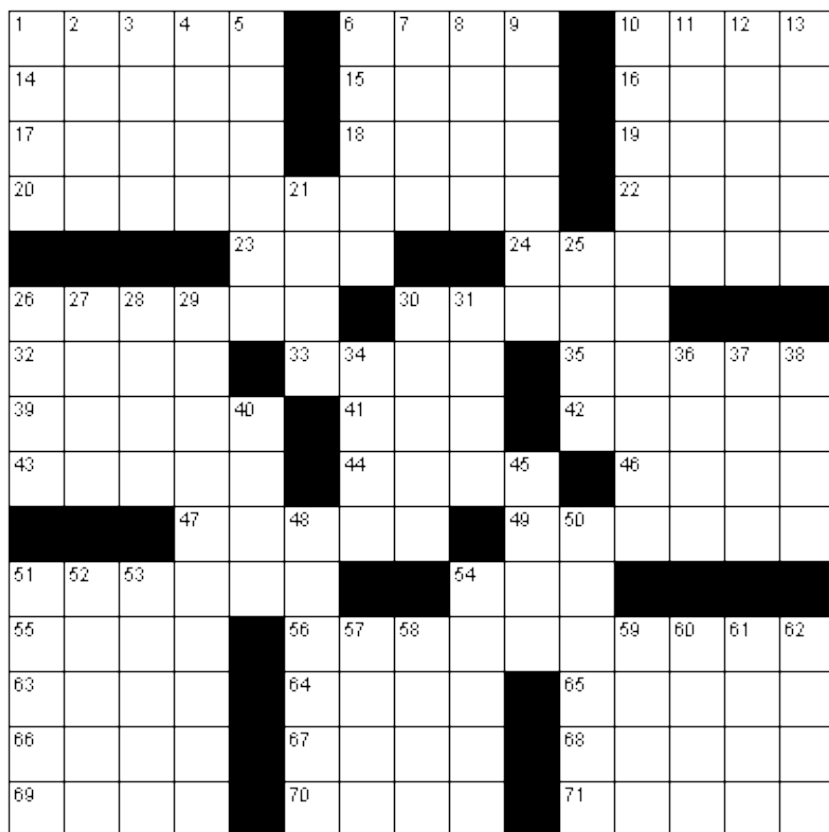
DEAR KOREA

065



Games

Crosswords - Sudoku



Across

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mill | 26. Sitting room | 51. Drink |
| 6. Encourage | 30. A ring-shaped surface | 54. Pelt |
| 10. Catch | 32. Wings | 55. Standard |
| 14. Cowboy sport | 33. Breakfast or supper | 56. The financial means whereby one lives |
| 15. Close | 35. A heavy blow with the hand | 63. Operatic solo |
| 16. Diminish | 39. Whinny | 64. Diving bird |
| 17. Perpendicular to the keel | 41. Metric unit of area | 65. Bend |
| 18. Information | 42. A peninsula in northeastern Egypt | 66. Breathe hard |
| 19. Border | 43. Wish granter | 67. Auditory |
| 20. Certain sayings from the Sermon on the Mount | 44. Top of a house | 68. Get on one's knees |
| 22. Anagram of "Sail" | 46. Coarse file | 69. Kid |
| 23. Born | 47. Secret meeting | 70. Walk through water |
| 24. Main course | 49. Slow to learn or understand | 71. Shop |

Down

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Snatch | 25. Cashews and pecans | 50. Some walls are made of these |
| 2. Gown | 26. Twinge | 51. Unsuitable |
| 3. Bright thought | 27. Sheltered, nautically | 52. Eel |
| 4. Tidy | 28. Precipitation | 53. Threshold |
| 5. Eye mask | 29. Valid | 54. Often was a white picket one |
| 6. Unjustified | 30. Fortuneteller's card | 57. Bit |
| 7. Absorb written material | 31. Margarine | 58. Empty |
| 8. Box office take | 34. Cobs of corn | 59. Stalk |
| 9. Found at the end of a pencil | 36. A Central American sloth | 60. Chocolate cookie |
| 10. Pullover | 37. Catholic church service | 61. Not under |
| 11. Low point | 38. Water carrier | 62. Expunge |
| 12. This is measured in degrees | 40. Parsley or sage | |
| 13. Fliers in V's | 45. Offensively malodorous | |
| 21. Course | 48. The color of the sun | |

7	1	4		6				3
9		8			2			5
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	9			2	1			
8						3		
	6	2					1	3
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	9							5
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6				5				9
		2	6					

How to play

Sudoku requires no calculation or arithmetic skills. It is essentially a game of placing numbers in squares, using very simple rules of logic and deduction.

Objective

The objective of the game is to fill all the blank squares in a game with the correct numbers. There are three very simple constraints to follow. In a 9 by 9 square Sudoku game:

- Every row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.
- Every 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.



Photo Challenge

Two horizontal orange lines above the text.
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www.flickr.com/groups/seoulphotoclub



Listings



International clubs in Seoul

To add your club to this list, e-mail mattlamers@groovekorea.com. — Ed.

Royal Asiatic Society

raskb@koreanet.net / www.raskb.com

This non-profit organization offers lectures about Korea's history and culture, while also arranging tours to locations throughout the country.

The Australia and New Zealand Association

events@anzakorea.com / www.anzakorea.com

Catch up with them at the Grand Hyatt Paris Bar from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. on March 20. Members are charged 12,000 won. Non-members pay 17,000 won.

The British Association of Seoul

basseoul@yahoo.co.uk / www.britishseoul.com

BASS is a vibrant and active social group for British expatriates and all nationalities. We seek to enhance our members' experience in Seoul, and provide hope and financial assistance to Korean charities in need.

Seoul International Women's Association

president@siwapage.com / www.siwapage.com

SIWA is open to women of all nationalities. Its monthly Coffee Mornings are held the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Among its many other activities are twice-yearly classes for members by members referred to as Interest Groups.

Busan International Women's Association

biwadove@yahoo.co.uk / www.biwakorea.com

This association extends friendship and support to international women living in the Busan-Kyungsang-Namdo area. The group meets at Starbucks opposite the Busan Aquarium on the 4th Wednesday of the month. Members and non-members are welcome.

Seoul Writers Workshop

seoulwriters@gmail.com / seoulwriters.wordpress.com

SWW members meet every two weeks in order to read and critique each other's work. The aim is to provide opinions and constructive criticism. Work is distributed before workshops.

Helping Others Prosper through English

bedavinci@naver.com / www.alwayshope.or.kr

HOPE's goals are to empower children through education and to open doors of opportunity for tomorrow's leaders. HOPE is one of the largest volunteer-based foreigner organizations in Korea and is comprised of both foreign and Korean staff.

KOTESOL

www.kotesol.org

Korea Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages is a professional organization for teachers of English. Our main goals are to assist members in their self-development, and improve ELT in Korea.

Overseas Chinese Women's Club

<http://ocwckr.wordpress.com>

This club meets monthly and is open to anyone interested in learning about Chinese culture and making new friends. Conversation is in Mandarin.

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BYUNG-YEUP LEE, LESSONS CONDUCTOR.

STARBUCKS EXTENDS ITS LOVE ON WHITE DAY

Starbucks Korea gave special lessons at Seoul Dasom School, the alternative school for multicultural families located in Heungin-dong on March 10th. The lessons were about brewing coffee and making of latte arts and conducted by 'Love Volunteers' consists of family baristas at Starbucks.

Seoul Dasom School is the first alternative high school courses accredited by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology for multicultural families and has been given regular coffee and barista lessons by Starbucks.

"It is very helpful to learn from professionals actually working

in the field and also it motivates to be focused in my goals" said Se-yeon Jang the sophomore.

Along with Starbucks coffee ambassador Yong-suk Choi and the staff, couples and families have volunteered in the event as well. "It was a meaningful experience to connect with special communities otherwise I would have not known of their existing and drives me to pay more interests to the communities", said Byung-yeup Lee, the lessons conductor.

Meanwhile, there are about 30 couples and sisters and brothers working at Starbucks Korea currently.



STARBUCKS®



Park Hyatt Seoul

Cornerstone's new signature menus

Specializing in grilled meat and seafood prepared in wood-burning ovens, homemade pastas and desserts, Park Hyatt Seoul's main restaurant, Cornerstone, presents new signature menu items created by the hotel's executive chef Massimiliano Ziano and Cornerstone chef Federico Heinzmann.

Under the concept of "family-style" and using only the highest quality premium ingredients, Cornerstone will burn different kinds of wood to heat the oven, changing every season, from oak tree, orange tree, cherry tree to chestnut tree and more.

Inquiries and reservations: (02) 2016-1220 or (02) 2016-1221



Sheraton Grande Walkerhill

Sante Spring package

Get ready to trek the beautiful Acha Mountain with the hotel's professional trainer. Sheraton Grande Walkerhill's spring package, Santé Spring, is available from March 1 till June 21. The package Be Nature starts from 170,000 won. It comes with a night stay in the Douglas room, an energy bag (energy bar and sports drink) and the Acha Mountain trekking program. Be Active starts from 390,000 won. It is packaged with a night stay in the Club suite, club lounge breakfast, club lounge happy hour, an energy bag (energy bar and sports drink) and the Acha Mountain trekking program.

The price is for two people. Tax and service charges excluded. If you present a photo taken at the top of Acha Mountain, you will be given a voucher for a free roll cake at The Deli.

Inquiries and reservations: (02) 2022-0000



JW Marriott Hotel Seoul

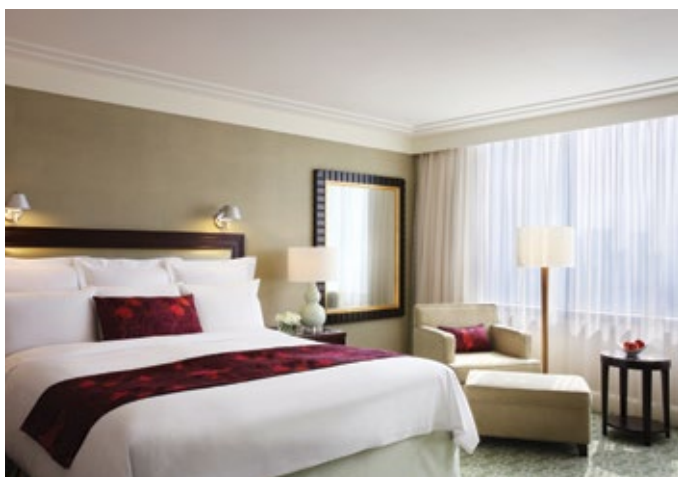
Spring packages

From March 1 to June 30, JW Marriott will be offering two spring packages. They feature the opportunity to enjoy rosé wine and learn great tips for getting into shape for the summer.

A special father-and-child Package, meanwhile, offers dad time with the kids while mom takes a well-earned break. Guests will also be offered complimentary use of the hotel therapy pool, equipped with Aqua Gym facilities, in a pool complex supplied with natural underground hot spring water.

The packages are priced from 259,000 won to 459,000 won. Excluding tax and service charges.

Inquiries and reservations: (02) 6282-6282



Grand Hilton Seoul

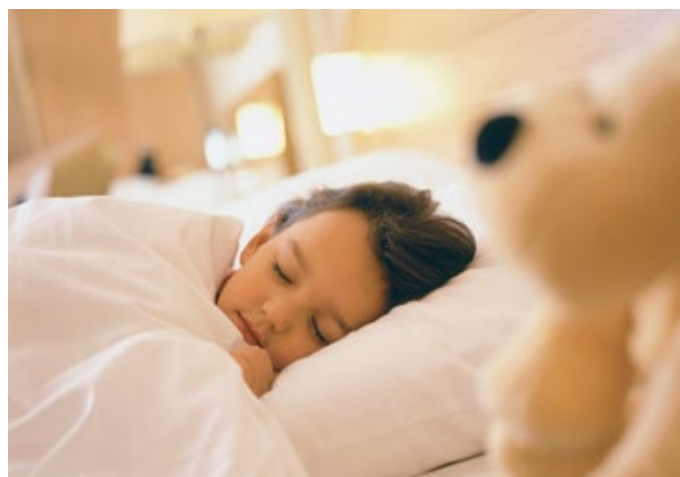
Allergy-Free Pure Rooms

Grand Hilton Seoul presents its new Allergy-Free Pure Rooms, suites that are created in compliance with high levels of sanitation and air quality for customers who are sensitive to allergies and bacteria.

Pure Rooms eliminate more than 98 percent of bacteria as a result of a two-week sanitation process. This provides a safe and hygienic environment for children whose immune systems are weak and customers who suffer from allergies or asthma.

Pure Rooms are available at an additional 30,000 won above the standard price of the room. Exclusive of tax and service charges.

Inquiries and reservations: (02) 2287-8400



Somerset Palace Seoul

Reflections of radiance

Ruth Keijndener, a multi-dimensional artist, teamed up with a consummate traveler, explorer of cultures and New York Times published photographer Inge Hooker to put together an art exhibition combining paint, photography and print designs.

It commences on March 29 and runs through May 30 at Somerset Palace Seoul.

Inquiries and reservations: (02) 6730 8888.



Park Hyatt Busan

Romance at the Park

Park Hyatt Busan introduces a special service package, Romance in the Park, designed to offer guests a cozy and romantic experience while enjoying a night in a guestroom with splendid panoramic ocean views through floor-to-ceiling windows, breakfast at the signature restaurant, Dining Room, and a bottle of sparkling wine along with praline chocolate. All guests purchasing the package will be given a miniature bottle of perfume (5 ml) of La Petite Robe Noire, recently introduced by Guerlain in March. The package is available between March 18 and June 30 for 384,000 won. Tax excluded.

Inquiries and reservations: (051) 990-1362





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Novotel Ambassador Busan

Meet the Legend of Macallan

Novotel Ambassador Busan Le-Bouchon bar presents the Macallan whiskey promotion throughout April and May. The whiskey is available for 25 percent off the discounted price. Bottles of Macallan whiskey are aged 12 years, 15 years and 18 years, respectively. All Macallan whiskeys are fermented in cherry oak barrels before being bottled. The bottles are priced from 260,000 won and served with complimentary side dishes. Tax and service charges are included.

Inquiries and reservations: (051) 743-1234



Lotte Hotel Busan

Play ball!

The locals' affection and support for their baseball team, the Lotte Giants, is quite well known. In order to cater to this crowd, Lotte Hotel Busan presents Baseball packages through this year's baseball season.

The Play-Home Run package comes with a standard room and the Hi-Home Run package comes with a high-deluxe room. They are available only on days when the Lotte Giants play home games. The packages come with two tickets to a game and snacks in an icebox. The packages start from 230,000 won. Tax and service charge excluded.

For reservations and inquiries: (051) 810-1100



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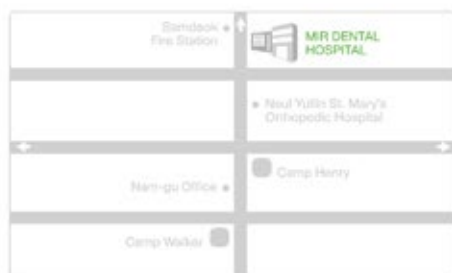
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Horoscopes

April 2013



Aries / March 20 - April 20

Your ability to get straight to the point will serve you well at work this month. Your supervisors want to solve a problem, not beat around the bush. You'll be in control when it comes to romance. Express your true feelings for a close friend and he or she will reciprocate. Leo is involved.



Taurus / April 21 - May 21

Your stubborn nature will work to your advantage at work in the middle of the month. While others look for a quick fix, you'll hold out until a long-term solution is found, getting you recognized by the higher-ups. A close friend will need your help this month. Be supportive and help out.



Gemini / May 22 - June 21

Friends will look to you to lead the way this month. They'll ask you to plan an outing for the whole group. While you're not used to the role of leader, take this opportunity to break the monotony. Work will seem boring early in the month. Enjoy it while it lasts. It will be crazy by month's end.



Cancer / June 22 - July 22

You certainly will earn the title of "The Crab" this month. Everything will seem to get on your nerves. Try to remain calm and don't take out your frustrations on co-workers. Go out to lunch, instead of eating in the office. Meeting some friends after work will help ease your tension.



Leo / July 23 - August 23

Get to the heart of family matters this month. Talk to loved ones and find out what's wrong. Don't let your pride get in the way of getting to the bottom of things. However, you shouldn't let family affairs affect you at work. Superiors will be considering you for a promotion.



Virgo / August 24 - September 23

Be wary when a co-worker asks to borrow money from you, because you'll need to make a large purchase before the end of the month. Is he or she reliable? A close friend will be there for you. Don't be afraid to confide in him or her. He or she has your best interest at heart.

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<http://www.facebook.com/DongsanHospital>



Libra / September 24 - October 23

Work will go by quickly this month, because you'll be busy working on a new and interesting project. Enjoy it, but don't forget to take some time for yourself. Let your enthusiasm for your job flow over into your personal life. Share your excitement with friends and loved ones.



Scorpio / October 24 - November 22

Love plays an important role in your life this month. You meet someone whom you can't get off of your mind. Instead of daydreaming about him or her, make a move. Ask him or her out and you'll find that you won't be disappointed. Aquarius and Capricorn are involved.



Sagittarius / November 23 - December 21

Be brave at work in the middle of the month. You'll think that there's a conspiracy against you, because everything will go wrong. Don't get discouraged. You're just going through a bad time. Your family life will make up for it. You'll have a great time with loved ones this month.



Capricorn / December 22 - January 19

A close friend will be the bright spot in your life this month. You'll be happier than you have been in a long time and everything will seem to go right. It even will make work easier. You won't get frustrated by workplace politics and the month will fly by.



Aquarius / January 20 - February 18

You'll have your freedom at work this month. Your superiors will give you free reign over an important project and it's your time to shine. Take every opportunity! Your analytical mind will help you make the best decisions. Pisces is involved.



Pisces / February 19 - March 19

Your compassion will be called on by loved ones this month. Help them calm down and try to boost their spirits. They've always been there for you. A close friend will bring you good news at the end of the month. It will give you an optimistic outlook on life.

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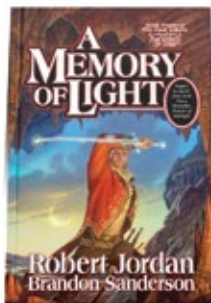
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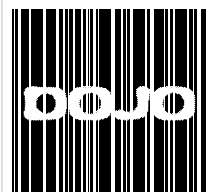
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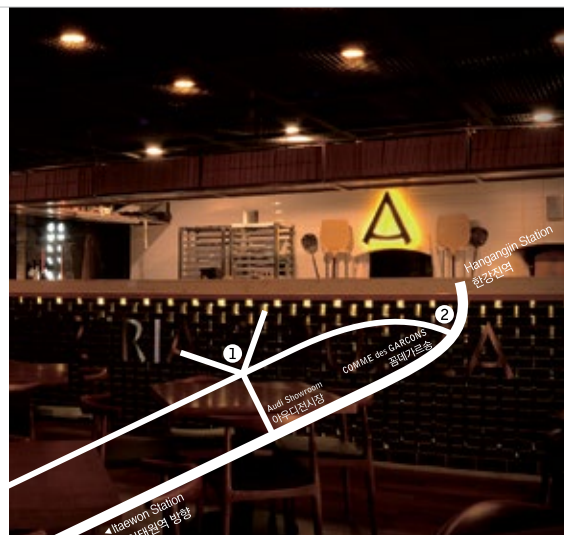
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Test of Proficiency in Korean

The 29th~32nd TOPIK will be administered as follows for 2013. All overseas Koreans and foreigners who are preparing to study or work in Korea are encouraged to take the test.

Classification	January(the 29th)	April(the 30th)	July(the 31st)	October(the 32nd)	Notes
Registration	Dec. 13~26, 2012	Feb. 12~25, 2013	June 12~25, 2013	Aug. 7~ 20, 2013	09:00~18:00
Testing Date	January 20, 2013	April 21, 2013	July 21, 2013	October 20, 2013	Sunday
Results	February 4, 2013	May 30, 2013	August 2, 2013	December 3, 2013	15:00

※ Internet registration only(<http://www.topik.go.kr>). All candidates will be notified of their scores through TOPIK website.

Testing Location : 18 Domestic Regions

Area	Testing center	Phone
Seoul	Institute of International Education, Kyung Hee University	02-961-0081
	Language Institute, Soongsil University	02-820-0788
	Language Institute, Konkuk University	02-450-3074
	Center for Korean Language Education, Dongguk University	02-2260-3471~2
	Sungkyun Language Institute, Sungkyunkwan University	02-760-1221
Gyeonggi	International Language Education Center, KangNam University	031-284-8515
	Ajou Language Institute, Ajou University	031-219-1675, 1677
Incheon	Language Training Center, Inha University	032-860-8273
Busan	International Language Institute, Pusan National University	051-510-3305
	Office of International Affairs, Pukyong National University	051-629-6843
Gwangju	Language Education Center, Chonnam National University	062-530-3630, 3649
Daejeon	Office of International Affairs, Chungnam National University	042-821-8804
Daegu	Korean Language Education Center, Daegu University	053-850-5692
Gangwon	The Institute of Global Education, Hallym University	033-248-2997
Chungbuk	Center for International Affairs, Chungbuk National University	043-261-2945
Jeonbuk	Korean Language Education Center, Chonbuk National University	063-270-2454
Gyeongnam	Office of External Affairs, Kyungnam University	055-249-2221
Jeju	Cheju Halla University Language Education Center	064-741-7421

Testing Fee : 40,000 Korean Won

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Timetable


Difficulty	First class	Second class	Notes
	Vocabulary · Grammar / Writing	Listening / Reading	
Beginner	09:30~11:00(90min.)	11:30~13:00(90min.)	am
Intermediate	14:30~16:00(90min.)	16:30~18:00(90min.)	pm
Advanced	09:30~11:00(90min.)	11:30~13:00(90min.)	am

※ Candidates must take the test at the venue they indicated on the application form.

The TOPIK exam is administered by  NIIED
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Contact

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